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INDUSTRY IN CHINA
WALTER ILLSLEY

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FOOD FOR EXPORT

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LETTERS
From the People

Comments from readers on current topics are cordially invited: their opinions, however, do not necessarily represent the views of the *China Monthly Review*.

British Crimes

To the Editor:

I was horrified by the pictures of headhunting by British troops in Malaya, which appeared in a recent issue of the Review.

Like their American bosses who are bringing disaster to the North Koreans, the British are today intensifying their reign of terror in Malaya. But British imperialism will never achieve success in suppressing the liberation movement of the Malayan people, because the people of Malaya, inspired by the victories of the Chinese people, have awakened. British brutalities will only further steel the Malayan people in their life and death struggle for freedom.

As sympathizers of the Malayan people, we demand that the British put an immediate end to their horrible crimes in Malaya.

YAO TING-HSIN

East China Aviation Academy
Nanking

Sino-Soviet Month

To the Editor:

I translated the following letter from my local newspaper:

Lo-chiangkou, a town on the border of Szechuen and Shensi provinces, is an old base of the Chinese Communist Party; in 1933 the Red Army under the leadership of General Hsu Cha-chien, defeated the reactionaries and occupied the town twice. Peasants carried out land reform. When the Red Army men marched north more than 400 farmers from here joined them.

I arrived in town on market day. The day before there had been a meeting to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the October Revolution. While I was passing through the crowds of people, I saw many memorial emblems of Chairman Mao and emblems of Sino-Soviet friendship on people's breasts. They thought these emblems the symbols of glory. These badges were given to them by the government when a delegation of goodwill was sent to this revolutionary base by Chairman Mao in October 1951.

The organization of the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association here was set up ahead of other towns in this district, not long after land reform last September. After an ex-

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hibition of pictures and movies, half the population of this town joined the organization. Recently 2,000 more applied to join.

As soon as the activities of the month began in the town, the people became younger and livelier. Posters and slogans were put here and there on the walls. Tea houses were used as publicity stations. Every kind of musical instrument was used, and over 40 blackboards on which were written many articles on the Soviet Union. In every corner of the town there were microphones and publicity agents.

One evening I visited a broadcast group. On a hill the broadcaster, holding the "Szechuen Peasant's News"

Father of a POW

The following letter was sent to me by the father of an American POW who lives in a small town in Minnesota. It seems to me he is speaking for a great many parents of boys in Korea who are doing what **they can to bring** an end to the war.

Dear Mrs. Chang and family—

We were so happy to receive your letter and to hear that the Chinese people are now living a better life. I often think of a book I had read, "Red Star Over China," by Edgar Snow in which he mentioned the "little red devils," the future liberators of China. What truly wonderful boys. We have a long way to go before we progress as far as the people over there.

I work at a paper mill here and at the mill we have many debates among us workers; by far the majority are opposed to the war in Korea.

Our family all worked for Hallinan during election. He spoke in Duluth which is just 20 miles from here; my eldest son had a nice talk with him after his speech. Last summer we had petitions out for the exchange of all prisoners and an end to the Korean war. We mailed our petitions to "Rockhead" Truman. When our son James was reported missing in action, I spoke to my wife and told her that I hoped he was a prisoner, and that I knew he would be treated well, and from his very few letters my wife is reassured that he is far better off a prisoner. I do not know if my letters to him are getting there—as I express my mind about the war and things in general, they are doubtless censored. James is just 22 years old. He joined the army during peace time and I thought it would be good for him as he was inclined to be a little wild. His ideas since becoming a prisoner have certainly changed, for which we are very happy.

The F.B.I. has been very active here in America and done me the honor to come to our small city and investigate me. But I cannot remain silent; I know it was done to silence me, but I have little to lose and much to gain.

Our only hope is that the war in Korea will soon end, and with it the dreadful suffering of the Korean people. Best regards from all of us to all of yours.

A. L. A.

in one hand and a microphone in another, began his work. I followed the direction of the voice from a distant loudspeaker. Very soon I reached a house beside the road. An old woman was playing with a baby in her arms; the kitchen was ready for the fire. Farmer Wu Yen-chiang, sitting on a bench, was smoking and waiting for supper. Judging from his appearance, he had just returned from the field. A young relative of a Red Army martyr, a member of the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association, he was, like the other farmers round about, enjoying the broadcast.

The man who organized the village branch of the Association told of the desire of the people to learn: One night some farmers heard there was to be a newsreel of the visit to the Soviet Union of the Chinese Peasants' Delegation. They went to the city at once, walking the many miles both ways, so that when they reached home it was already dawn.

I thought the most vivid activity of the month was the memorial held by the relatives of Red Army men, and martyrs' relatives. I met many heroes there.

Sino-Soviet friendship is rooted in

Life in Far-off Likiang

LIKIANG is a beautiful scenic spot in northwestern Yunnan, with a population of various nationalities. To satisfy the land-hungry peasants' demand, land reform has been completed in a few areas populated by a mixture of Minchia, Nashi and Han people. The whole process was carried out by the peasants themselves and in conformity with their own wishes. Thereafter living conditions began to improve. For instance, Li-ren, who had been the farm-hand of a landlord for 13 years, now received enough arable land for his own use, a house, a cow, clothing, and ¥1,000,000. The landlords as a class no longer exist and the crooks and rascals have been rounded up. The peasants are now cultivating their own land.

At the foot of snow-capped mountains, the Li-shiu tribe lived chiefly on sweet potatoes and buckwheat before liberation, and each year suffered at least four months of hunger. Last year, they were taught to plant wheat, which turned out to be a bumper crop, created a new record of the finest harvest in the area's history, and overcame the annual summer famine which had always existed in the past.

In areas inhabited by the Tibetans and Sifan tribe, about 6,700 mou of wasteland were reclaimed last year with seeds supplied by the people's government. As the farmers master modern agricultural technique, the annual yield of grain is expected to increase by 10 to 50 percent this year.

The bed of a highway leading from Likiang to Tali was laid 13 years ago; not until after liberation was the highway completed, and within three months. Now trucks carry native products for sale throughout the province. Today everyone can easily buy salt, a most precious commodity in Chiang Kai-shek's time.

A *sheng* of grain which could formerly be exchanged for only two and the people's hearts, and forms the foundation of peace.

LIU HSUN-SHENG

Chengtu, Szechuen

Harbin Prison

To the Editor:

Last week I got a letter from my friend, who told me of a model prison in Harbin. This prison, a hell in pre-liberation days, has become a factory and a school under the people's government.

In the past, criminals were regarded as psychologically abnormal and the prison as a place to punish them. They made the prison life so hard a prisoner sentenced to five years would die before his term was up.

Now the people's court deems the cause of crime lies in the social environment, which must be improved, and prisoners must be taught the honor and necessity of labor production before they will learn some trade and work for their living. Under such principles, the Harbin prison has changed completely, and undertaken a new mission.

There are bristle, printing, iron, carpentry, and weaving workshops in the Harbin prison. Prisoners with technical knowledge and skill teach those who have none. Every prisoner works eight hours a day. Under this system, the prisoner not only acquires the "labor habit" and "production technique," but also becomes self-supporting. In fact, the income from the articles manufactured by the prisoners has been more than enough to maintain them.

A prisoner usually takes a bath once a week, and has his hair cut fortnight-

one-half ounces of salt, now brings 16 ounces. New products, including medicines, have been developed.

Schools, including primary schools for minority youngsters and spare-time literacy classes for the peasants, have been increased in number, and nine hospitals were restored and/or established. Hundreds of health workers have been trained to serve in the region's remote countryside. Working teams and mobile anti-epidemic corps travel far and wide carrying supplies and free medical care to national minorities living far up in the mountains.

After the earthquake late last year, new homes in the slightly affected areas have been all but restored and those in the severely damaged areas are being rehabilitated. "Everything goes swiftly under the present government," said a peasant in Likiang.

Recalling a disastrous hail during Kuomintang days, he went on to relate, ". . . after a weary month's wait, there came at last, in a sedan chair, an official from the provincial capital. During his two-day stay in the village we were forced to kill three chickens, and a duck, and present him with a bundle of boiled opium. Before returning to his Yamen, he grabbed, in addition, 70 silver coins for 'traveling expenses' . . ."

Today things have taken a decided turn for the better, and the minority peoples of Likiang believe they are going to see more improvements in the future.

Chang Shu-i

Kunming

ly. Clothes are washed often, and sometimes sterilized. A clinic was set up for treating minor illnesses, and serious cases are sent to the municipal hospital. Under the Kuomintang, the death rate was as much as 18 percent, but no death has been reported here since Harbin came under the rule of the people's government.

Prisoners attend regular cultural, educational and newspaper-reading classes and group discussion meetings in the prison. Every effort is made to educate them to the point where they themselves will realize what a crime is, to enable them to lead a new life after being released.

Prisoners are eager to learn, and it is not unusual to see some break down and cry at the regular meetings where they discuss their past lives and what they have done in the old society. A prisoner may be released before he has served his sentence if he makes progress rapidly during imprisonment.

I. T. FANG

Kaifeng, Honan

Reader in Puerto Rico

To the Editor:

Three copies of the **China Monthly Review** have just this minute arrived. Each one is full of interesting reading. I don't like to skip any of it. The **Reviews** give such a full picture. Of course I shall give them as wide a circulation as I can.

I must tell you how enthusiastic I am about all I read about your China. Particularly I mean what I have just read of "Thought Reform." . . . Another article in the magazine that fills me with admiration and amazement is Dr. Abbas' "Discovering China." In fact, everything I read about China thrills me. Just to read about it is exciting—how much more exciting to be living in it!

M.C.S.

Puerto Rico.

BOUND VOLUMES

Bound volumes of the China Monthly Review—January to December 1952—are now available at ¥80,000 delivered within China and US$3.50 for abroad per volume. Each volume is indexed by subject.

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China Monthly Review
160 Yenan Road, East
Shanghai, 0, China

The Month in Review

- *"Unleashing Chiang" !!!*
- *Women in China*

"Unleashing Chiang" !!!

EISENHOWER'S January State of the Union message, containing in it the policy of continuing the US occupation of Taiwan and encouragement and help to the Kuomintang to harass continental China, is a harbinger of further Washington adventures in the Far East.

The president's cancelling of Truman's June 1950 order, dispatching the Seventh Fleet to "prevent" raids by the Kuomintang on the mainland, has resulted in much loose talk about "unleashing Chiang" to "invade the mainland" on the part of self-appointed military experts and irresponsible officials.

To any rational person who has seen the disintegration of the Kuomintang army of several million the idea that the remaining few hundred thousand troops of doubtful fighting ability and loyalty, and led by an officer clique with nothing more to its credit than a string of successive defeats, can do anything to a nation of half a billion people which has thrown off decades of reaction and foreign invasion smacks of the ludicrous. And when one recalls the performance of new China's Volunteers in Korea, one begins to wonder if there is any limit to Washington's blunders.

US policy-makers apparently live in a world of their own where upside-down logic is the order of the day. Thus for the past two years Chiang's forces, sent reeling out of China and propped up on Taiwan by the US, were, the world is supposed to believe, "prevented from attacking the mainland" by the presence of the Seventh Fleet in the Straits of Taiwan. But Chiang is no more capable of invading China than he is of repaying the billions of US dollars Truman and company poured down the drain trying to hold his government together. Threats of using the Kuomintang frighten exactly nobody in China today.

That the new administration suffers from the same confusion and contradictions as did its predecessor was clearly illustrated by the fact that while Eisenhower was "unleashing Chiang" his own top military man, Omar Bradley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs-of-Staff, moaned that the KMT "far from being ready to invade the Chinese mainland . . . were apparently incapable of protecting" Taiwan.

Carrying the farce a step further, the KMT mouthpiece on Taiwan, the **China Daily**, rushed into print appealing to Washington to order US air and naval forces to continue patrolling the Straits of Taiwan and adjacent waters.

The Chinese people have a word for Chiang Kai-shek—running dog. Webster's New International Dictionary defines unleash as "to release, as dogs." Thus, American editors' use of the word "unleash" is particularly apt in the case of Chiang, who Washington has kept kenneled in Taiwan for the past few years.

BEHIND all the double-talk of "unleashing Chiang Kai-shek's forces against the China mainland" world opinion senses that the Eisenhower administration is bent on quickening that pace toward war which characterized the Truman government. This accounts for the wave of dismay on the part of US "allies" in the West which greeted Eisenhower's State of the Union message.

Typical was British press reaction: The **Daily Herald** noted that the "cause of the United Nations all over the Far East will be injured if it now appears that the discredited Chiang Kai-shek is to be resurrected as a valued ally."

The **Times** in London editorially stated: "Chiang Kai-shek's men are regarded in China as a reactionary émigré force, and the story of all successive revolutions shows that nothing welds a people more closely round the revolutionary leaders than the threat of émigré intervention with the support of other powers."

Nobody in China wants war. The people here are busy building a new country; they are hard at work turning the old China into a modern industrialized nation. However, as has been proven during the past two and a half years in Korea, they are determined to defend their newly won life and at the same time continue to advance and grow stronger on the domestic front.

Even the enemies of new China have been forced to admit that the country is united as it has never been before. Should the Eisenhower government actually try to send Chiang against the mainland not only would such an action be smashed but Washington's "peanut" once and for all would be buried in the garbage heap history has waiting for him.

Women in China

FOR centuries in old China, women were considered inferior beings. Living in a semi-feudal agrarian society, women had to accept arranged marriages; they could be sold as virtual slaves or forced to become prostitutes and concubines. Widows were forbidden to remarry. Economically, women in China were the greatest victims in a society characterized by almost unbelievable exploitation of the vast majority.

In May 1950, the government passed a marriage law* which set forth in detail women's new status in society. The law provided for freedom of choice in marriage and the right to divorce. Since then Chinese women have made rapid progress in shedding their feudal bonds. This is especially true in their economic status. Land reform, affecting nearly 90 percent of the population, has given peasant women their own land. In industry, government and the professions, women today are holding down jobs never dreamed of only a few years ago.

It was one thing, however, to lay the foundation for uprooting the evils of the past and another to complete the job. The customs of centuries could not be swept away overnight. The changing of women's status, which has been so long ingrained in the very *mores* of old China, is in essence an ideological struggle between the past and present.

Tradition dies hard, and thus many women at first dared not have a show-down with husbands and in-laws over past or present grievances. Lacking working skills and training, many feared they could not fend for themselves if they left home.

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*see "The Marriage Law in Action" by Shirley Ray Wood on page 58 of this issue.

The result was that in the nearly two years since the passing of the marriage law, despite a general overall improvement in the position of women, its operation has been somewhat uneven. Generally speaking, old ways and attitudes have been more difficult to overcome in the countryside. For example, in some cases, women have been prevented from joining mutual-aid teams on the farm by the men who exaggerate the point of their weak labor-power; and in some instances where women are members they have not received equal pay for equal work with men. Again, in carrying out the marriage law some government personnel have failed to rid themselves of their own antiquated ideas about women and consequently their work has been far from satisfactory.

BEGINNING in March a national movement was launched to root out the remaining vestiges of feudal thinking regarding marriage and women in general. This campaign is a clear example of new China in action. Aimed at concentrating public attention on this point and hastening the complete emancipation of the nation's women, the decision to carry out the movement was reached after a nation-wide summing-up of experiences in applying the law. Preliminary work got under way in February, and publicizing the principles of the marriage law in every city and village is a chief feature of the campaign.

These principles pave the way for a system based on "free choice of partners, on monogamy, on equal rights for both sexes, and on the protection of the legitimate interests of women and children."

Among the targets of the movement are the almost subconscious thought patterns handed down by the old society to both men and women, which are stumbling blocks along the path to realizing complete equality between the sexes. It marks another step forward in getting rid of such antediluvian ideas, for instance, as that women are by nature destined to be household drudges or that they are not entitled to own property and thus cannot inherit a deceased husband's estate.

Nobody in China denies that the question of real equality for women is a big problem. However, just as in the case of other major social anachronisms inherited from old China, about which previous Chinese governments never lifted a finger, it is being tackled—and a thorough solution is in sight. The present drive points to the fast approaching day when the system based on the supposed superiority of men over women is entirely ended. In its place there will be complete equality for both sexes and complete fredom to choose one's marriage partner.

FRONT COVER

Woodcut portraying a nursery in the Old Liberated Area capital, Yenan by Chen Shu-liang.

An American Engineer's Report:

Industrialization Begins

Walter Illsley

THE idea of a Chinese engineer leaning out of a locomotive window might surprise many Westerners, so deeply ingrained is our concept of China as a bamboo-and-rice-growing, rickshaw-pulling nation. All the more surprising would be the sight of Chinese steel mill workers handling red-hot railway rails, or a Chinese girl crane operator sitting high overhead, lowering the boiler of a new locomotive onto its chassis.

Yet the new Chungking-Chengtu railway was supplied with rails from Chungking steel mills and even the locomotives were built in China.

Although China is not yet an industrialized nation, the wide-spread conception that the Chinese people are unable to master industrial skills is quite erroneous. China's failure to develop modern industry was due to social and political conditions, not to technical inaptitude.

Chinese workers amply demonstrated their skill and ingenuity long before the present drive toward industrialization. The ancient salt wells of Szechuen, drilled 1,000 feet deep with bamboo—not steel—cable, can command the respect of any Texas oil driller.

The common cast-iron cooking pots, up to four feet in diameter and a foot deep but less than one-eighth of an inch thick would present a challenge to Western foundrymen asked to pour them without blowholes or flaws.

Similarly, the task of setting up the warp of an intricate loom on which the fabulous imperial silk brocades of complex design were automatically

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WALTER ILLSLEY, a frequent contributor to the *Review*, is a young American engineer who worked in China for the past few years. In this article Mr. Illsley describes some of the factories and machine tool plants he visited while touring the country with the US delegation to the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference late last year.—Editor.

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woven would baffle any but the top experts of our textile industry. And experience has shown that modern industrial chemists have difficulty reproducing the exquisite glazes of early Chinese porcelain.

In a newer field, the best Cadillac service man would be hard put to it if faced with a cylinder broken through to the water jacket and asked to build a furnace, melt his own iron, pour new cylinder sleeves and pistons and then machine them to a precision fit on a hand-powered lathe with tools he had to make himself, even to lathe bits, files, drills, taps and calipers—and no micrometer.

Yet many a truck repair shop in China did all this and more, through the years of struggle for survival against the Japanese. Old gasoline drums lined with fire clay were standard garage equipment for melting iron, with charcoal or coke as fuel. Three or four percent of aluminum salvaged from a wrecked plane was usually added to improve the quality of the castings, and old truck and plane skeletons were picked over for the bits of alloy steel which were forged, retempered and made into files, drills and cutting tools.

An out-of-the-way repair shop would rebuild batteries, rewind generators, babbit bearings, hand-file an out-of-round crankshaft journal true to one-thousandth of an inch, or even cast and machine a new carburetor.

TODAY, thousands of these technicians who had to improvise almost everything they needed during the war years are working in large shops with excellent equipment, some imported from the USSR and Eastern Europe, a little from the US and Britain, and no small part from China's own rapidly expanding machine tool industry.

It goes without saying that these workers are now applying their resourcefulness on a much more advanced and productive basis.

Their new equipment, though still inadequate in quantity, is impressive for its range and quality. In one plant we visited, where shapers and heavy and light lathes are being mass-produced, we saw four shops (machine, forge and heat-treat, foundry, assembly), each about 100 by 600 feet, and equipped with overhead traveling cranes.

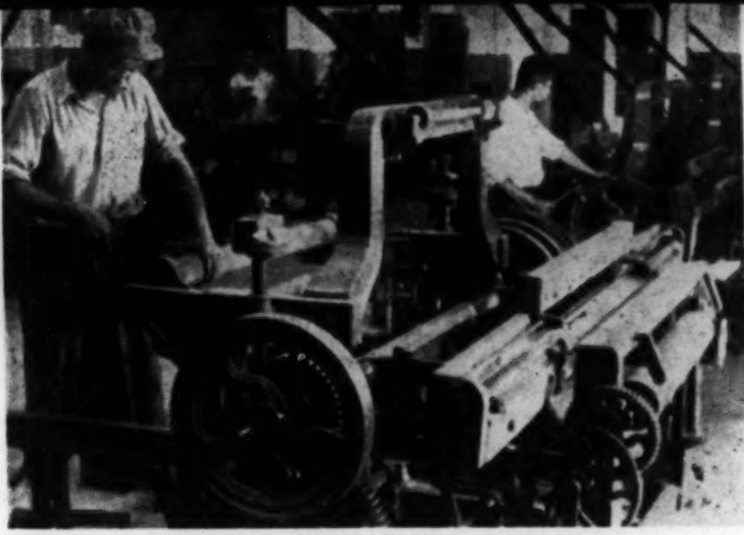
Many of the machine tools in these shops were enormous Soviet models, planers with multiple cutting tools machining six 6-foot lathe beds at once, vertical milling machines with more than a 12-foot horizontal travel, 12-foot radial drills, horizontal boring mills with about a 10-foot mandrel length and six-foot vertical range. And on the railway siding was still more equipment in crates.

The present number of veteran technicians and skilled workers is far from sufficient to meet the growing demands of the country. Training programs are under way, therefore, for engineers, scientists and skilled workers of all kinds.

In contrast to the scholar tradition of old China, education is now intensely practical. In two engineering schools visited, one in Peking and one in Tientsin, we saw row upon row of men and women students working at lathes, shapers, milling machines, lay-out benches, and making moulds in foundry shops, as well as studying in classrooms and libraries.

Equipment in the materials-testing laboratories was excellent, almost all newly-installed, and expensive. It

The huge construction projects in new China have given a boom to the expanding cement industry. Picture below shows one of the new cement kilns.



Many small shops which formerly engaged in speculation have now converted into small factories, like the one pictured above, which is a weaving factory.

included 60,000-pound compression and tension testing units from Germany, Swiss torsion testing machines and American fatigue, impact and hardness machines.

ENGINEERING colleges take practical training several steps further through close cooperation with the state-operated factories. The universities ask these industries for production problems on which they can give assistance. In their second year, all students spend up to two months as ordinary workers in their special fields; at the end of the year they work as foremen's assistants and at the end of their third year as engineers' assistants. In the half year before graduation they do special work on some industrial problem, and after graduation they keep contact with their university, for consultation on special problems.

The specialization possible under the new system of training is an advantage, as it permits the freshman to choose his course of study within narrow limits. As he is assured of employment in his chosen field upon graduation, he is not compelled, as are students in the West, to get as broad a training as possible in order to increase his chances of getting a job.

With as yet a comparatively small number of machine tool plants and technicians, China today is nevertheless producing a considerable quantity of highly specialized industrial equipment. We saw the looms and spindles in modern textile mills, the new machinery in large paper mills, modern printing presses and automatic stocking knitting machines, all made in China.

Seeing all this, we became more than ever aware of the futility of the US blockade of China. The industrialization of China cannot be stopped, since the country possesses all the essential requirements: manpower, raw materials, initial machine tool industry.

The US does not own or control the world supply of industrial equipment, and thus cannot prevent China obtaining it, as evidenced by the excellent machinery we saw from the USSR and Eastern Europe.

Another important factor operating for the success of industrialization is the terrific determination on the part of ordinary people to bring it about. The people see in industry their entire future, and, as with the Huai River project, they know how to accomplish tremendous tasks through the organized effort of hundreds of thousands.

None of the jobs being carried out is as spectacular as the Huai project, where one can see 60,000 at work; but the aggregate accomplishment of the groups of two, 10 or 100 in industry all over the country is perhaps greater.

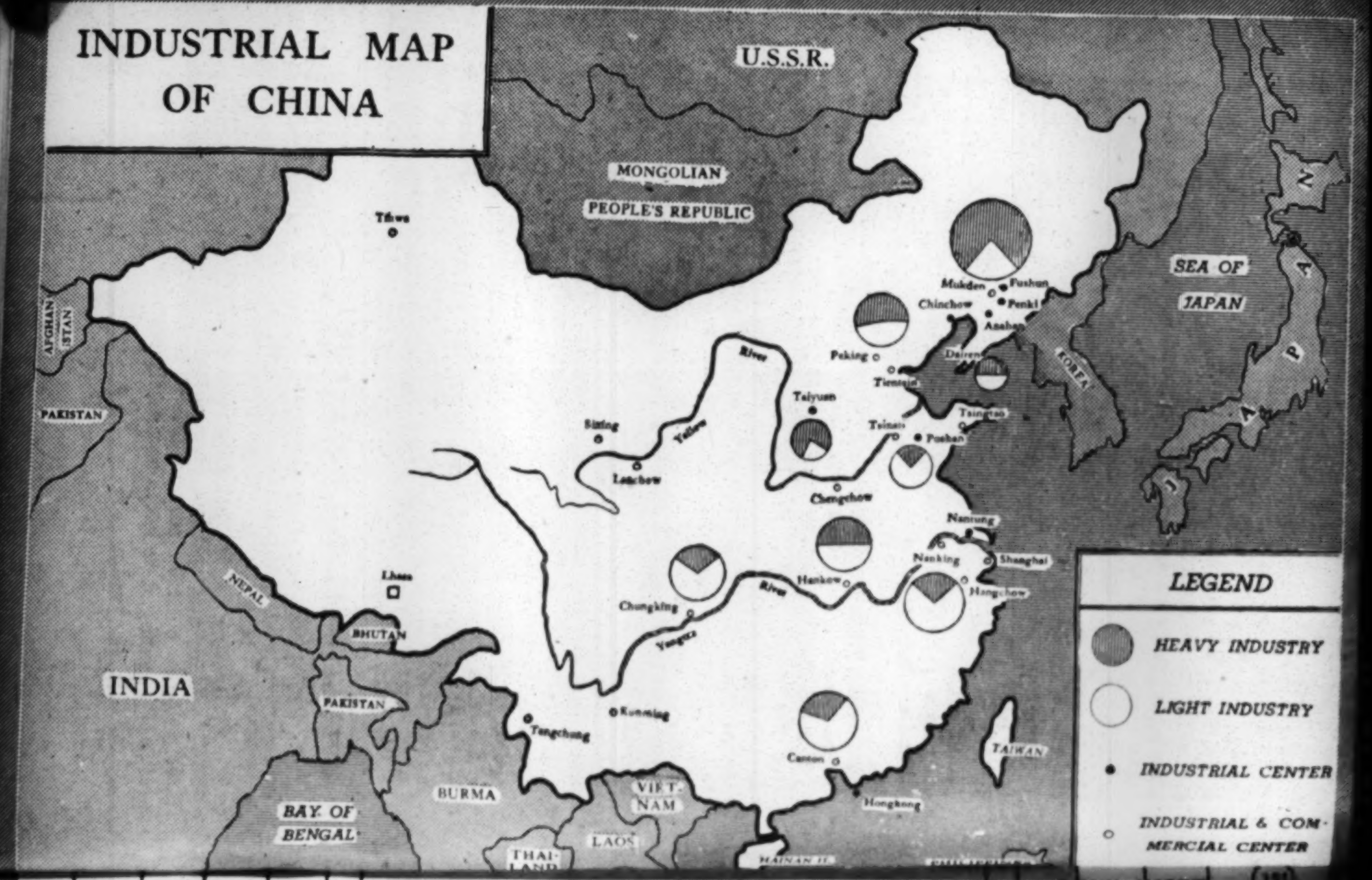
The 10 men working in a Shanghai welding shop on high-pressure steam vessels for the manufacture of medicines; the sheet metal workers laboriously hammering and shaping chemical equipment out of copper sheeting; the two mechanics who spend a whole day with a hand saw cutting off an eight-inch bar of steel needed to make a new punch press—such people all over China are working steadily and confidently to supply the machinery and equipment for the new industries they are determined to have.

They will succeed, blockade or no blockade, and sooner than anyone might have believed possible.

DREDGING INLAND WATERWAYS

THE Chung Hua Dockyard in Shanghai has made the first China-made chain-bucket type dredger. Built for work on the Huai River flood control project, the dredger is 68 feet long and 17 feet wide; six feet in depth and operates on a draught of four feet. The boat was built to pass under a bridge 12 feet high, thus enabling it to reach not easily accessible waterways.

INDUSTRIAL MAP OF CHINA



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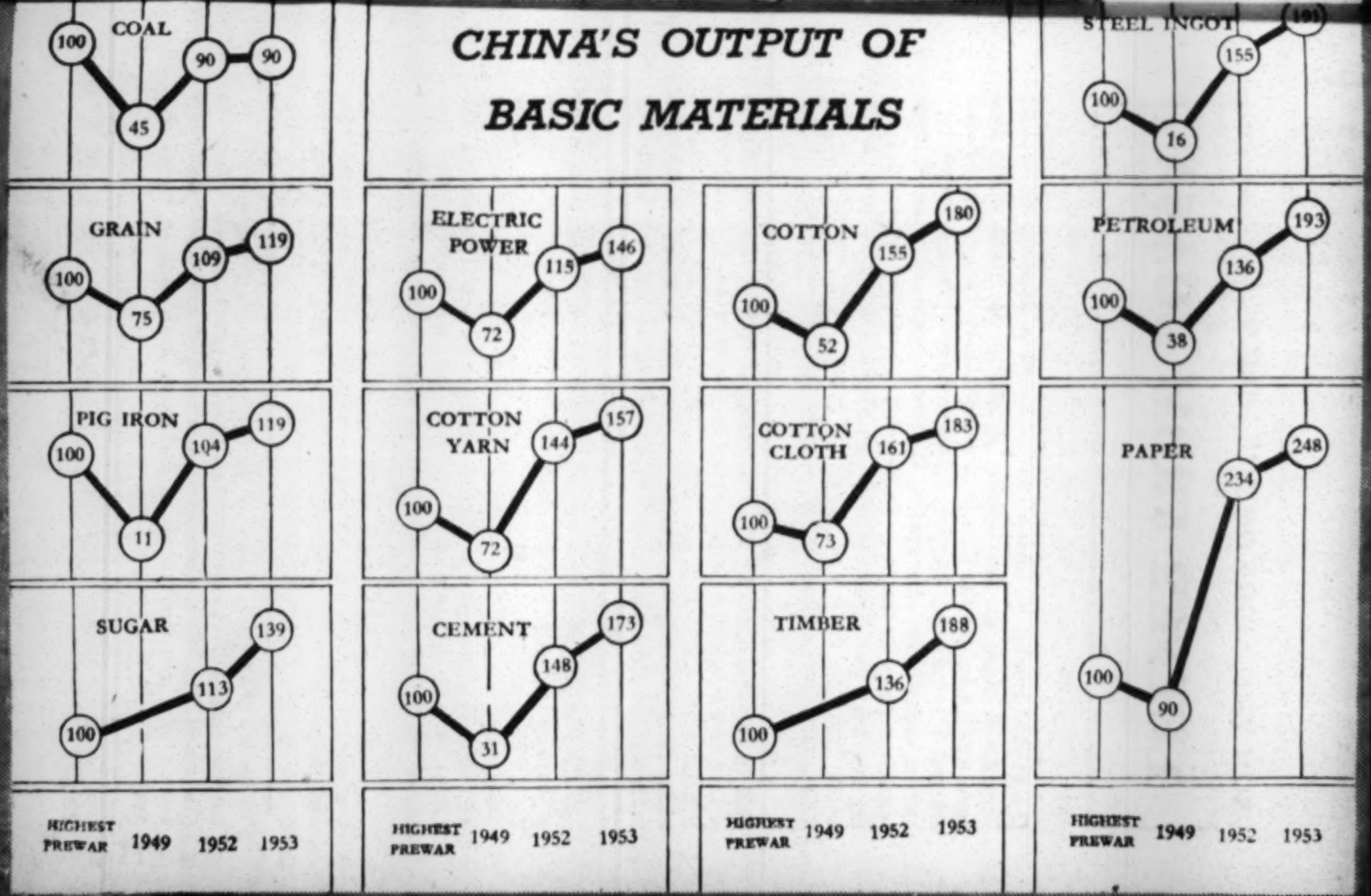
CHINA'S OUTPUT OF BASIC MATERIALS



FROM THE "ROOF OF THE WORLD"

LETTER FROM LHASA

P. Y. WANG

BEFORE coming to Lhasa I had two main impressions of this far-off place in new China. According to much which had been written before the Chinese People's Liberation Army [PLA] entered Tibet, Lhasa, capital of this so-called "land of mystery," had a climate so changeable that one could experience four seasons within 24 hours. The second impression gleaned from my readings was based on *Hsinhua* News Agency reports which noted that the PLA had joined in construction work with the Tibetans to make this ancient capital more beautiful.

After my arrival on April 28, 1952, I learned that my first impression was far from correct, the second impression was a fact and in addition, after a stay of five months, I have learned a little more about this city which became the provincial capital under King Srong-tsan-gampo in the 7th Century A.D. The marriage of this king to a Chinese princess was the beginning of a long and close relationship between China and Tibet.

The beauty of Lhasa struck me on the day I arrived, after a journey of more than four months by motor truck, donkey and foot. The weather that day was delightful—the sun shone pleasantly, the sky was a clear blue and there was no wind at all. The golden crown of the famous Potala (Palace of the Gods), which is built on a rocky ridge and towers 1,000 feet above the plain below, glistened in the afternoon sunlight.

Upon my arrival I set about taking a look at the streets of the city. The buildings were generally two or three-storied ones and there was much activity in the way of drains being dug and

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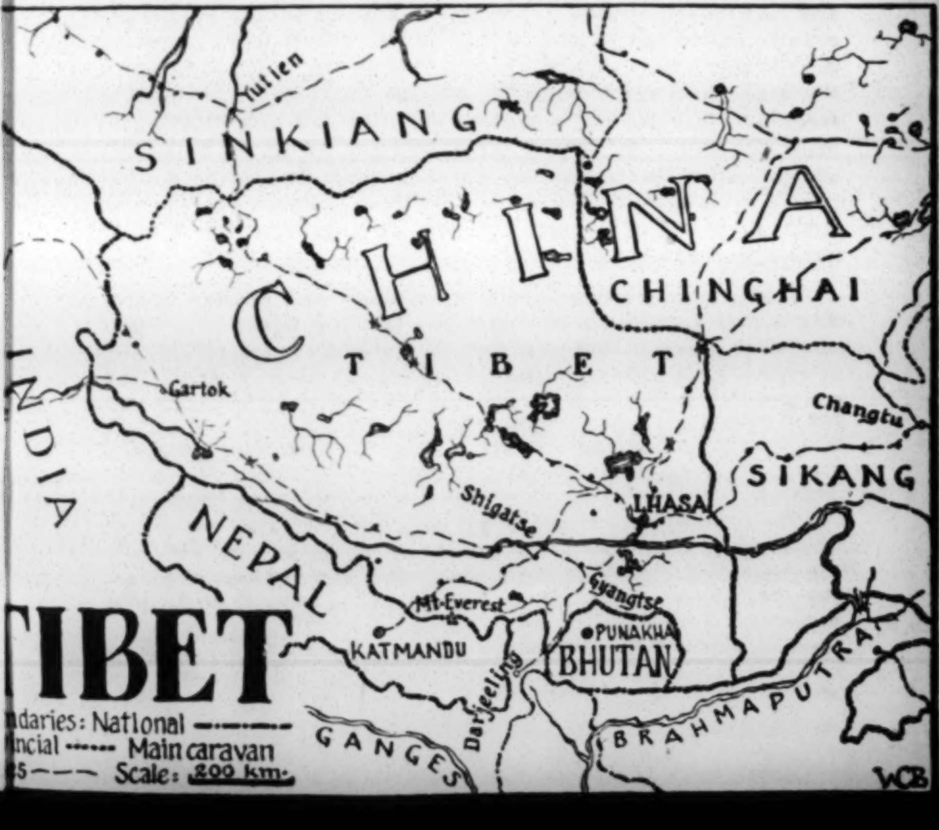
P. Y. WANG, a long-time Review contributor, has recently returned from a five-month visit to Lhasa, capital city of Tibet. In this article Mr. Wang describes present conditions in Lhasa and notes some of the new changes which are today beginning to make their appearance in this ancient land.

decades-long accumulations of rubbish being removed. I was immediately struck by the fact that none of the shops and stores had any signboards. I soon learned that there was no need, for all of them were a sort of combined department store and restaurant.

The streets of Lhasa were full of people, and Tibetan government officials were coming and going on horseback and garbed in a variety of spectacular styles of dress. PLA men were to be seen shopping and in the company of Tibetan friends with whom they were able to engage in conversation. Lamas were everywhere, clutching a rosary or small prayer-book in one hand, mumbling something unintelligible to my non-Tibetan ear.

Food was abundant, and when I turned on to a street to the east, I saw a wide variety of green vegetables, cabbages, onions, turnips, chilis, potatoes and others on sale at the many stalls. On my first visit a friend accompanied me and suggested buying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The famous Sela Monastery, one of the best known in Tibet. Lying about three miles outside Lhasa, it has 7,000 monks.

some beef as we neared the meat stalls. I prefer pork but according to the local custom only the whole hog is sold, as a rule, and so I settled for beef. The young Tibetan woman behind the counter smiled and pointed to the different cuts of beef, repeating the phrase "*yamo re*" which means "very good." Knife in hand, she asked how much worth of beef we wanted. I saw nothing resembling a scale and wondered out loud how she expected to make her sale. My friend simply told her to cut off a dollar's worth. After the woman did this my friend insisted on a little more for his dollar. She complied with his request but when he again suggested a bit more she refused, giggling, "My hand is unable to cheat you."

I was most impressed with the manner and good-nature of this woman behind the stall and felt that my friend was being somewhat greedy. However, he is a straightforward fellow and he replied in a somewhat disappointed tone as we walked on, "She means well and I'm sure she's honest but I doubt if her judgment is as reliable as a scale. The Tibetans still don't have a weight or measurement system and the custom is for the seller to give a little more if the customer asks for it."

As soon as we turned away from the beef stall we found ourselves surrounded by a group of children, all shouting "Chairman Mao!" "Chairman Mao!" by way of greeting us. They refused to leave, skipping alongside and jumping up and down demanding the badge of Mao Tse-tung which my friend wore on his chest. Shouting in Tibetan, "*Mendu, mendu . . .* " (none, none....), he had great difficulty not tripping over the children swarming around him. When he got ready to give the badge away he realized that he could satisfy only one of the many children clamoring for it. Bewildered as to how to solve his dilemma, my friend just waved the badge over the many outstretched arms.

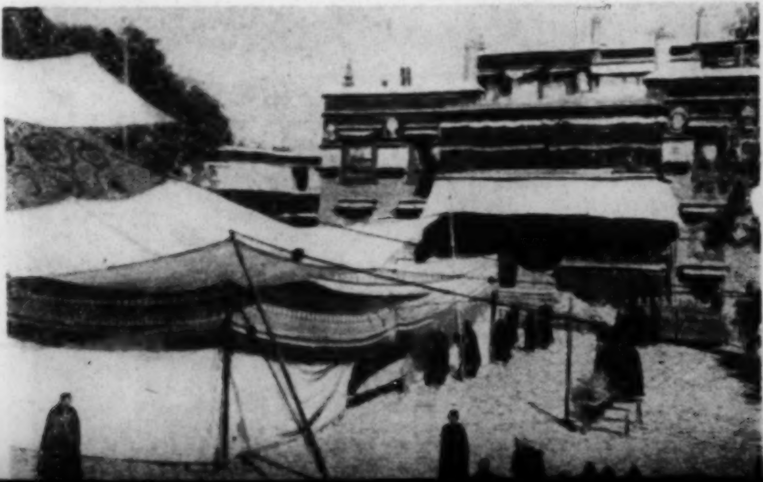
By this time a number of shoppers in the market were attracted by the scene and stood around watching. All of a sudden, a taller boy elbowed his way through the crowd, jumped up and snatched the badge out of my friend's hand. The boy, who could not have been more than 12 or 13, raced off several yards to an old woman who embraced him and joined him in admiring the likeness of Chairman Mao on the badge.

Scenes like this were common occurences on the streets of Lhasa, my friend told me as we walked off.

MAY 24, 1952, marked the first anniversary of the peaceful liberation of Tibet. I attended the big mass meeting held in a large compound and was immediately impressed by the Tibetan army band which played such familiar songs as "Union is Strength," "The Sun is Red in the East," and others. I sat near a group of Tibetan troops and watched them spiritedly applaud every speaker on the platform.

It was a warm day and the sun beat down on the meeting.

The Tachao Monastery which is located in Lhasa proper.



During every interval some of the Tibetan soldiers would leave their seats to fetch water from somewhere nearby, carrying it in the hollow of their felt hats. They knew that we were looking at this procedure with great curiosity and when they drank they would peer over the upraised hats and grin a little at us.

When a representative of the Panchen Lama spoke many of the Tibetans nodded their heads in approval, and while I could not understand too well, there must have been some humorous touches for from time to time the men would break out into loud laughter. As a whole, the audience appeared deeply interested in what was being said. The Panchen's representative's speech was quite long but nobody seemed to grow restless. I think his references to the behavior of the PLA in Tibet are particularly worthy of mention:

"All of us here still can recall the situation when the British troops were in Lhasa as well as other parts of Tibet. What did they do here in Lhasa? Many of us saw with our own eyes—there was looting, rape and killing. Contrast this with the People's Liberation Army.

"They have been with us for some time now and we have

Big celebration meeting on May 24, 1952, marking the first anniversary of Tibet's return to China.

Another view of the May 24th meeting, showing a portion of the audience and speakers' platform in background.

been able to observe them. Have they committed even one act of violence? The answer is No! The PLA are real brothers and they are the armed forces of the whole nation. Each man represents the interests of every single nationality in China, including the Tibetans.

"Furthermore, not only have these soldiers not destroyed anything, they have joined in and helped us in our farming, they have worked in the fields with many of us and they have built roads. Their actions are just the opposite from those of the foreign troops who have been here in the past. And that is why even our smallest child has no fear of any soldier now."

From all that I saw and heard during my five months in Lhasa I am convinced that the Tibetans, from the peasant to the lama, agree with the words of the Panchen's representative. This feeling the people have for the PLA is nothing new. I say "new" because the PLA men are such a far cry from the soldiers these people had become accustomed to during the long years of invasion and subjugation. Yet there is no doubt that the people had their qualms at first about how the PLA would behave. After all, they thought, "a soldier is a soldier."

However, today the PLA here is known not only as an army of good fighters but also as an army of good producers. Even when the PLA began its production drive many Tibetans were of the opinion that it was not a soldier's job to carry out the work of a farmer or a pioneer.

It was in the winter of 1951 that the PLA launched its big production drive. Since that time 12,000 *mou* (2,000 acres) of wasteland in the vicinity of Lhasa and Teching, a small district about 20 miles east of the capital, have been successfully reclaimed. Because of the lack of implements in the past, the inhabitants around Lhasa had been convinced that it was impossible to reclaim this land.

Tibetan farmers, accustomed to rather primitive agricultural methods, have watched the PLA farm and have learned from these soldiers turned planter. Last spring, before planting the newly reclaimed land around Lhasa, the troops carried in over 1,000,000 pounds of fertilizer. They improved and increased the efficiency of the plough used by the Tibetans and introduced a shift system in ploughing which kept work going steadily. Nearly 15 miles of irrigation canal were dug to catch water from the nearby Lhasa River. And thousands of willow trees have been planted along the canal.

Although the land here is mainly suited for Tibet's most popular grain crop, barley, the PLA also experimented and planted vegetables such as turnips, pumpkins, cabbages, tomatoes and potatoes, all of which have been grown successfully. The PLA in Lhasa today obtains its vegetables entirely from land which it cultivates. An experiment was made with soya beans, but the result was not known by the time I left Lhasa last October.

Formerly, the only fruit to be found in the Lhasa market was a rather inferior type of peach. PLA men have succeeded in growing good grapes and apples, and also the famous Hami melon from Sinkiang province can be grown around Lhasa.

This Tibetan farmer's field lies more than 13,000 feet (2½ miles) above sea level. His draft animals are yaks, a branch of the bison family which are found only in Tibet.

The story of a 48 year-old Lhasa carpenter is one of present-day Tibet. A carpenter for nearly 33 years, Nachiaowangchieh is the head of a household of seven, and with the exception of the two youngest children all are working. Before May 24, 1951—liberation day in Tibet—Nachiaowangchieh's plight was that of a typical working man. Lucky to have a job, his meager wages were hardly enough to maintain a low standard of living.

Work has become plentiful and in Nachiaowangchieh's own words, "Since liberation we need not worry any longer about sufficient food and clothes." The family now can afford the thick yak butter tea which all Tibetans like so much. Meat and vegetables no longer are a rarity. At the same time, the two youngsters are able to attend the new primary school in Lhasa.

Last year, Nachiaowangchieh bought a number of new tools as well as things for the house. As Chinese New Year approached in February this year, the family made preparations for a real celebration. Tibetans are great hat-wearers, and new hats were purchased, as well as six pairs of new shoes. For the children, Nachiaowangchieh's wife bought some cloth to be made into new suits.

A FEW years ago modern medical facilities were unknown in Tibet. However, since the peaceful liberation of this one-time "remote" area one of the chief attractions in ancient Lhasa has been the government's medical service for the people. For example, the polyclinic set up in January 1952 by the PLA was the first of its kind in the capital. Last September, Tibet's first modern hospital was opened in Lhasa. At the time, some 1,200 Tibetans were given free smallpox vaccinations, and the hospital sent out two vaccination teams to cover the area outside of Lhasa.

Even before the People's Hospital was opened in September free medical treatment was being given to the public by PLA doctors. The feeling of Tibetans for these doctors is well known in this city.

A few weeks before I left I visited the hospital and talked to some of the doctors there. It seems that many of the patients refuse to leave the hospital after recovering. They offer to go to work in the hospital. While passing the out-going patient desk I overheard a conversation between a doctor and a young woman.

The doctor was telling the patient that she was perfectly all right and could go home. The young woman, however, was refusing to take his advice. She kept telling him that since she had been cured here she wanted to stay in the hospital. It wasn't that she did not believe him, the young woman told the doctor. "No, doctor," she insisted, "I'm sure I'm all right but I want to stay here and go to work." The doctor had a hard time convincing this grateful patient of the fact that cured patients generally return home.

I left Lhasa in October, shortly after the big celebration of National Day on the first. On the national holiday the city was a scene of much gaiety and color. A big parade was held in the center of the city and great crowds were everywhere. Many people watched from housetops, through binoculars. I came across a large group of school children on their way back from a big mass meeting. They were all singing songs in their own language, songs of the old and the new Tibet. In spite of the difference in language, the harmonious melodies sung by these youngsters gave me a feeling of close kinship with them.

The Lhasa power plant had been deliberately damaged by a gang of saboteurs which included a White Russian, a German and an Austrian who all took to their heels and crossed the border into India shortly before the PLA entered Lhasa. Because of the shortage of materials as well as difficulties in transportation (for people who have never traveled across the "roof of the world" it is not easy to imagine how much the word "difficulty"

A Tibetan decorates his wall with the bi-lingual slogan: "Long live the great unity of the peoples of China."

Ceremony in Changtu, Sikang province, marking the arrival of "Chairman Mao's Yaks."

implies) repair work on the damaged power plant was a slow business.

On the night of October first the city received a pleasant surprise when the lights on the main streets came on for the first time.

I talked to a few Tibetan merchants and they all felt that the government trading company and the new People's Bank were definite aids in doing business. One merchant told me that the setting up of telegraphic communications with provinces outside of Tibet would be of much help.

A few days after the October 1 celebration I left Lhasa on my journey back to Peking. I arrived in Changtu in Sikang province just in time for the opening of the new highway between this city and Kangtse. Sikang province, which borders on Tibet, has a large Tibetan population and the completion of this motor highway was a great event for the many Tibetans there.

At the opening ceremony there were more than 400 trucks moving into the city one after the other to the cheers of crowds extending for one mile along the new road. From time immemorial the chief means of transportation in this area has been the yak, an animal on which the nomads and herdsmen depend for their living. Thus, when the first truck carrying a large picture of Chairman Mao Tse-tung approached the festooned gate to Changtu a great shout went up from the spectators: "Chairman Mao's 'yak' has arrived at last." Everybody laughed heartily.

Later, I attended a meeting to honor labor heroes on the new road. "We pledge to extend the highway to Lhasa at the earliest possible time," said one sturdy road builder. I am sure that it will not be very long before the motor road will reach to Lhasa. Tibet is no longer separated from the rest of China.

An example for others

HOW CHINA SOLVED HER FOOD PROBLEM

Dr. Jagdishchandra Jain

IN a few short years China has turned from a major food importer to an exporter. From 1721, when 22,500 tons of rice were imported from Siam, for more than two centuries large quantities of rice had to come in from abroad. By 1932, rice was first on the list of the country's imports.

In the past, though China was rich in rice, famine and food shortages took millions of lives. "Experts" claimed that the large population was responsible for the nation's food plight. However, by 1951, less than two years after the establishment of the new government in Peking, China not only was self-sufficient in rice, but also had an exportable surplus. More than half a million tons of rice, corn and sorghum were exported to India. Since that time, grain, including rice, has been exported to Ceylon as well.

What the "experts" never mentioned was that China always raised much more food than the amount which reached the general public. In the past, transportation was always a big problem. In addition, there were different vested interests which had grown fat on the chronic maldistribution of food. For example, hoarders and speculators, working with Kuomintang officialdom, made steady killings in scarcity areas such as Shanghai and other cities by withholding grain from the market so as to drive the price up.

In areas of surplus, profiteering merchants, landlords and officials tried to prevent heavy purchases at harvest time so that the new crop would glut the market, thus

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driving prices down to rock bottom. At this point they would buy up and hoard all available supplies to wait for a rising market.

Although the exact amount is not known, it is a fact that even in years of serious famine during Chiang Kai-shek's rule, rice and other grain rotted in private and government storehouses.

THE manner in which China has turned from a heavy rice-importer to an exporter is an important lesson for other food-short countries in Asia. It was not done through foreign "aid" or "projects." Basically, it was accomplished by the people themselves, led by their government.

Before the war against the Japanese, the average yield of rice was about 2.25 tons per hectare (about 2½ acres), but in 1951 peasants in some parts of China had already increased production up to 7.5 tons. It should be noted that mechanized farming was not used except in a very few instances, but the peasants organized their labor power effectively and followed simple scientific instructions issued by the government throughout the rural areas.

What are the reasons for such a great increase in rice production in China?

First and foremost is the introduction of land reform throughout the country. This was a revolutionary step toward solving China's long-standing agrarian problem. Formerly, the average peasant either had no land of his own or else saw as much as 70 percent of his crop go to the landlord. As a result of land reform he obtained his own land, gained release from former economic and physical

Peasants in the coastal province of Shantung reap a bumper harvest.

oppression and could look forward to a completely new life. For the peasant, conditions have completely changed. For the first time he has a government encouraging him to produce more; there is only one tax and instead of having to borrow at usurious rates the government offers him exceedingly low-interest loans to improve his cultivation; and after centuries of illiteracy and ignorance he and his wife and children are able to attend schools.

Mutual-aid teams, by which several families work collectively for more efficient production, have been organized all over China. For example, last year, in Shansi province alone, there were 330,000 teams which helped increase that province's grain output. Nation-wide emulation campaigns have also greatly effected production. In Hunan province, known as China's Rice Bowl, more than 200,000 peasants joined in a drive in 1952 to reach a target of 8.25 tons of rice per hectare. Some model peasants pledged to set a record of 12 tons. Production heroes are selected every year at village, county, province and national level.

The government's numerous irrigation projects have constituted a great aid to cultivation. Total acreage for cultivation by the end of last May, for example, had increased by

The first shipment of Chinese rice for Ceylon being loaded at Shanghai.

10,000,000 hectares over that of 1951. In addition, peasants are now using more fertilizers, employing improved farming techniques, selecting better seeds, buying better tools and taking effective steps against pests, droughts and floods.

Besides having easy credit facilities, the peasants of new China have cooperatives to supply their needs, and markets where they can dispose of their produce at a guaranteed price. Government agronomists give them scientific advice on crops and farming methods.

Last year witnessed a marked increase in the production of rice and other grain in China. This was especially so in Central-South China, which experienced land reform later than areas to the north. In pursuance of the aim of strengthening friendship between China and India, 100,000 tons of rice were exported to India last year. This gesture of friendship has been most appreciated in view of the need for rice in the famine-stricken areas.

According to Hongkong quotations, the price of white 25-30 percent broken first quality Siamese rice is US$192.50 per metric ton, while the white 25-27 percent broken rice supplied by China is $120 a metric ton. In other words, the Chinese rice is not only of better quality but is cheaper than the Siamese rice available in the market. In addition, payment last year was partly accepted in Indian currency without any other stipulation. The agreement was signed on May 20, 1952, and delivery made in June.

Government agronomists inspecting sugar cane fields in Kwangtung.

The attitude of US dealers in rice to India seems to be quite different and their actions lead one to suspect that they view famine as an excellent opportunity for profit-making. In 1951, at the time of impending grain shipments from the US, a member of the House of Representatives did nothing to dispell this notion when he publicly noted that India had large uranium deposits and urged that in exchange for American grain the US should obtain some of these resources. Last year, the Indian government had to admit that 20 percent of US wheat imported had been found to be "dead, thin and uneven grains, besides a fairly large quantity of dust and dirt admixture." This confession was made in the Council of States in New Delhi on November 25, 1952, by Deputy Food Minister Krishnappa in reply to a question by a Council member.

On the other hand, rice from China is not only reasonably priced but no attempt is made to take advantage of India's great need by making its sale contingent upon economic, political or military concessions. Prime Minister Nehru has rightly called this "a very generous gesture" on the part of China.

Standards of living in both town and country are going up in China. Under these circumstances the majority of the people, who prefer rice, are now able to eat rice and not the coarser grains so many of them had to depend on formerly. Yet, new China stands ready to export rice; she is ready to export more and more as production constantly rises. We hope this "generous gesture" will strengthen the bonds of friendship between our country and China so that both nations may come in closer contact to encourage and develop real trade.

Bigger Grain Crops

FROM north to south, China's grain production continues to rise. Fukien, on the southeast coast, which was a grain importing area before liberation, has become a grain surplus province. Last year's output was nearly five percent above the highest pre-war level. Production of grain is expected to go up 10 percent in 1953 over last year.

Far to the north, in the province of Sungkiang, a target of nearly 4,000,000 tons of grain, or at least five percent over last year, has been set for 1953. At the same time, with the use of new harvest methods, it is reported that a maximum target of 4,100,000 tons is possible.

Rehabilitating a mountain district

AID FOR THE PEOPLE

H. C. Huang

A DOCTOR in China today is not paid in gold — his material wealth might seem almost non-existant to a high-priced career-doctor in the Western world. By such standards, our life here is rugged—yet I am sure that we get far more satisfaction from our work and our lives than do most Western doctors. We doctors who now have the privilege of caring for patients who have been suffering for years from neglected ailments and illnesses know of the great changes taking place in the world, and are proud to take our place in the forward march of humanity.

I had just drained an abscess, and the patient remarked musingly, "Under Kuomintang rule, I went to the town hospital, but they drove me out because I was dressed like a pauper. Times have changed!"

On another occasion, an old woman with bronchial asthma remarked with some emotion, "Never did a doctor come to our village until you were sent. Now I can expect to get some medical treatment."

Such remarks were frequent among members of this Fukien province village who had come daily with their ailments, some of which were of 10 to 15 years' duration. The patients had reason for gratification; since the establishment of the new government, even in the most difficult fiscal year, funds were constantly allotted, every two or three months, to the people of this old Liberated Area for their relief.

Chon An, a town near the Kiangsi province border, has a long history of struggle, going back to the very start of the Chinese Revolution in the 'twenties. During the period of ruthless encirclement, the Anti-Japanese War

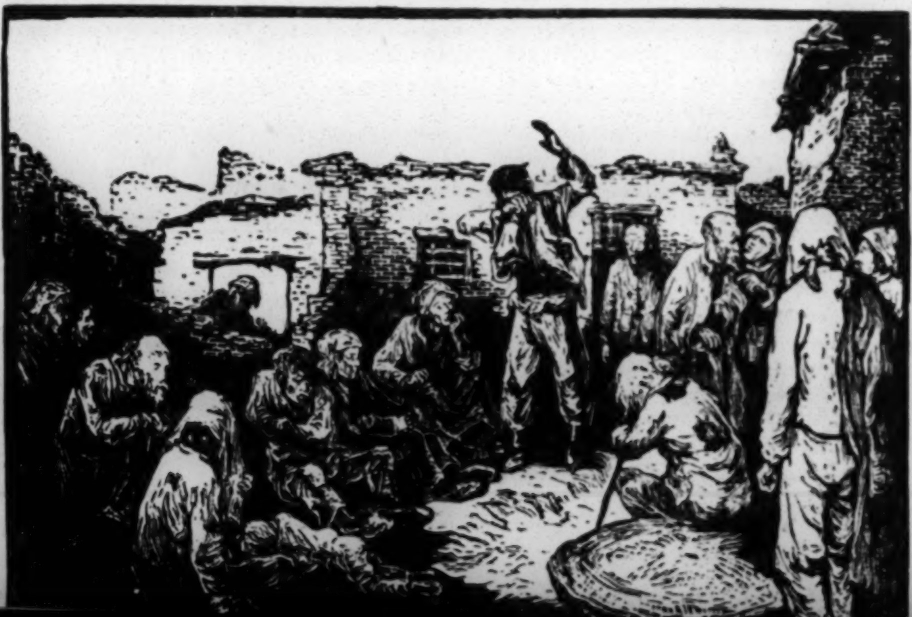
Dr. H. C. HUANG, a Review contributor for the past four years, has recently returned to Fukien province after serving with the Chinese Volunteers in Korea for the past year and a half.

and the war of liberation, some of the villages in this area were totally wiped out—houses, people, livestock, everything—so that there was nothing left but rubble and skeleton walls. The villages that survived the holocaust were so badly damaged that for more than 10 years the population remained practically the same, even with the great influx of immigrants from other provinces.

Some people sought refuge in remote parts of the province to escape Chiang Kai-shek's reign of terror, some had gone to take an active part in the guerrilla warfare against the hated Kuomintang (KMT), some had been brutally killed and many died prematurely during the years of the bitter struggle, while others were pressganged into the KMT army. The women suffered an especially cruel persecution, being forcibly carried off by army officers, or sold to brothels. Even little children did not escape the wrath of Chiang's soldiers — they vanished like vapor into the air; no one knows their fate, they never returned.

At first glance, the village where I stayed seemed fairly intact. But one afternoon I climbed a near-by hill, and discovered that at least one-third of the village had disappeared, leaving nothing but

Telling of old grievances.



the village walls. The houses had been torn down by the KMT army for the construction of pill-boxes for use against the people, whom the KMT always referred to as "bandits." As a government worker explained to me, houses were often torn down as an act of revenge against the peasants for their cooperation with the guerrillas.

The long wished-for day had finally arrived; a new era was ushered in when the triumphant People's Liberation Army marched into Fukien. The relief of the people was unbounded. For years they had looked forward to this day. Now the immediate prospect of a better life had come; the future was in their own hands.

The old Liberated Area is to be rehabilitated. This is not merely a slogan; it is a reality. From Peking the call was issued: government workers from every part of the province, from every walk of life are being mobilized to answer this call. Builders, constructors, engineers, bankers, medical men pour in a continuous stream to the far corners of the province.

Every day, along rugged mountain trails and by-paths, blue-uniformed government workers with their bedrolls on their backs are on the march. They do not ride in jeeps or sedan chairs or even on horseback. They do not come to be entertained by landlords and local big-shots. They do not come to take a look, and return to comfortable headquarters shaking hypocritical heads and murmuring, "Miserable, miserable!" "How awful, how awful!"

They come to investigate, to inquire into the needs of the inhabitants, to see what can be done. They come with a project—not castles in the air—for a prosperous village. This is their chief mission, to serve the people and solve their problems.

The thing was new to me, when I was first acquainted with my mission. My destination was a village in a deep valley, to which one must travel over mountainous trails and paths where in places two men cannot walk abreast. On one side, mountains rise in a perpendicular wall; on the other, one looks down into a ravine, along which small streams rush. Once we traveled more than 10 miles without seeing a single house or sign of life.

Finally we reached the very summit of the mountain range; a dilapidated temple greeted our eyes. Our guide told us this desolate spot was formerly a favorite hangout for robbers. Our faces must have betrayed us, for he laughed heartily, and assured us that now a single traveler can walk there without fear.

In the evening, we reached the village administrative headquarters, where two teams from the People's Bank were already at work. Our comrade in the office told us that we had arrived just in time: that night, a village meeting was to be held at 8:00 o'clock.

Would that not be rather late, I asked, once more apprehensive. I had heard that the mountains were infested with wild animals such as panthers and tigers.

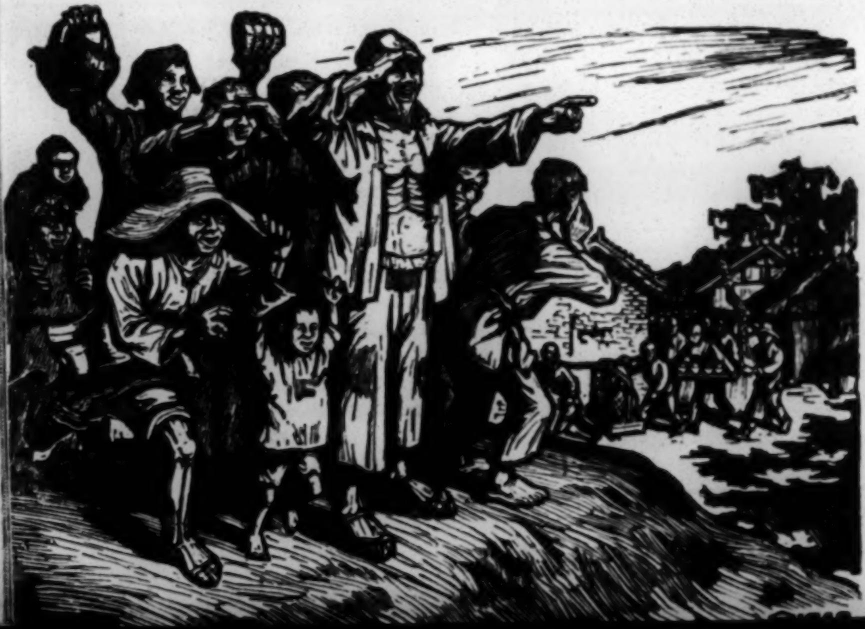
Once more my guide was nonchalant. "Oh, that's nothing!" he assured me with a smile, and added that it was not unusual to return at one in the morning.

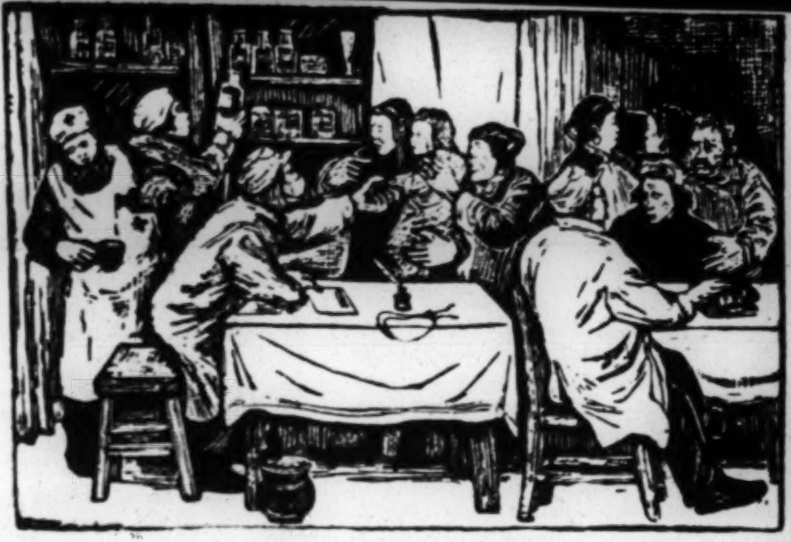
But how about the wild animals? Is it safe out at night?

It seems that sometimes the animals do bother travelers at night, but a great number have been hunted down since liberation so the danger is not great. "Besides," added the guide after a pause, "this is our duty. We cannot call a meeting in the daytime when the farmers must work their fields."

It was a busy center where we stayed. In that building which was formerly the local Kuomintang headquarters, much urgent business was discussed, decided and carried out. During my one-month stay, the People's Bank twice dispatched teams to investigate

Our own army is coming!





Medicine goes to the people.

how much money was needed to help the farmers purchase farming implements and cattle. They carried the information to headquarters, and returned with the money. This sort of thing never happened before liberation.

The second meeting that took place during my stay concerned rehabilitation work. The government will make compensation to those whose houses were destroyed by the KMT; for these people it will build houses, issue cotton-padded clothes and quilts and buy furniture and household utensils.

A list was compiled of those families whose sons or husbands had been killed in the revolutionary cause; some of these families are to be supported by the government, others are to receive pensions. Such work required diligent care and attention. Every day, I saw government workers go into the villages to collect information and evidence.

The third meeting was about cultivation of land, and prevention of insect pests. The whole village was mobilized to dig up roots. These roots, according to scientific findings, can harbor a kind of insect, which when grown will eat its way out to destroy the grain. To prevent such damage, the government had called on the people to dig up the roots and burn them. After several speeches delivered by responsible government workers and model workers who described their experiences in this work, a question and answer session was conducted.

The women in a neighboring village challenged our village women to a root-digging competition. A plan was drawn up, in answer to this friendly challenge.

We also held meetings on medical affairs. Our duties were manifold: vaccination, sanitation movement, and training of midwives, no mean feat in a district where the villages are scattered far and wide among the mountains. The farmers were all out in the daytime, obliging us to work late in the evening, when we visited every house.

Our greatest difficulty was in organizing and training the midwives. For the most part they were old women whose poverty had compelled them to take up this job, regarded by the villagers as low and degrading.

When summoned to attend the training course, they feared being reprimanded or even punished by the authorities; some sought to escape by pleading their inability to continue the work. Their stubbornness sorely tried our patience, but at last, convinced of our sincerity, they saw a way opened to them, a way by which they would not be punished, but enabled to live a better life and bring a better one to their charges.

Sanitation work was carried out in every family, amidst unending torrents of questions. The people were forever asking why and how, happy that free medical care was to be provided, thankful when their maladies were cured.

I once talked with a farmer who insisted that before liberation he possessed absolutely nothing—no house or land. "But," he continued with a smile, "after land reform, our family of four has 16 *mou* of arable land, which yields over 30 *piculs* of grain each year after paying our tax to the government. Now we also have rooms in a former landlord's house, and one draft ox plus chickens and ducks."

His children are in the village school, his daughter second in her class of 50 students. As he told me all this he kept grinning and laughing the hearty laugh of a very happy man.

Coming back to the city early this November, I met a line of carriers on a narrow path. They were returning from the city, carrying bundles of cotton padded clothes. When they saw us, their faces broke into broad grins.

"Winter clothes, doctor!" they beamed.

I could see that they, too, were happy; I am sure that nothing will depress them any more, now that exploitation is gone forever.

A former wasteland is now

A STATE FARM

Hsu Chien

HUANG Fan Chu State Farm, located in the eastern part of Honan province, is one of China's largest mechanized farms south of the Great Wall. Covering an area of 10,388 acres, it is equipped with 36 tractors, 18 harvester combines and many different types of up-to-date farm machinery.

Set up in the fall of 1950, the Huang Fan Chu (Yellow River Flooded Area) State Farm achieved an average winter wheat yield of 23.9 bushels per acre, a national record for a large farm.*

This figure was 40 percent above that achieved by peasants in the nearby areas and twice the average yield per acre for the whole province.

Looking at the record of this fast-developing modern farm it is difficult to imagine that just a few years ago it was a veritable "no man's land" overgrown with tall weeds.

IN 1938, Chiang Kai-shek's troops broke the dikes of the Yellow River at Huayuankou in Honan, in a vain attempt to curb the Japanese invaders. As a result, a vast fertile plain was flooded out, huge amounts of property washed away, and hundreds of thousands of people were drowned or made homeless.

It was nine years later, in 1947 when the entire area was liberated, that the peasant survivors returned to their native land. The people's government of the old liberated areas took great pains to give them material relief and aid in production.

With the liberation of the whole country came more government aid and the Yellow River Flooded Area Rehabilitation Bureau organized mechanized farming brigades to help the peasants work their land. Thus, most of the land which had been flooded in 1937 was restored to cultivation.

Following land reform in 1950, the peasants were anxious to improve the soil and to modernize their farming methods in order to raise crop yields on their own land. The Ministry of Agriculture in Peking established the Huang Fan Chu State Farm as an example of modern farming methods.

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* The average yields in the West, based in 1940 figures are: US—14.5 bushels per acre, England and Germany—30 bushels per acre.

At present, there are more than 1,500 workers on the farm. The majority are peasants recruited from the area. The technicians and staff, some of whom are young college graduates, were appointed by the government.

All of the farm workers receive a monthly wage. The size of the farm and the large staff allow for specialization. Some work in the repair and assembling workshop, the brick and tile kiln, the tree nursery and other units attached to the farm.

When the farm was first set up in 1950, the site was a vast stretch of uncultivated land and the workers lived in tents and reed-thatched huts. In 1951, plain brick buildings were added, and by last year there were solidly-built dormitories as well as machine depots and other buildings. Facilities for recreation and sports are available for the workers in their off-hours.

Shortly after its establishment, the farm was faced with the task of sowing more than 1,345 acres to wheat. At that time there were a great many difficulties involving lack of experience in organizing and carrying out large-scale farming. There also were the problems of adulterated seed, a great shortage of fertilizer and poor housing for workers. Despite all these difficulties, however, the farm set a national record for the output of wheat.

The accomplishment of the state farm showed the peasants in the area the advantages of mechanized farming and collective labor. Ho Cheng-shun, model peasant in Honan, who inspected the harvest, pointed out that the chief reason for the rich crop, even without the aid of any fertilizer at the time, was deep ploughing and thorough harrowing by machinery, plus timely sowing.

Many of the model farm workers and leaders of mutual-aid teams who came to inspect the farm's harvesting saw that in order to use highly productive machinery, the present small, individual farming must be discarded and collectivized agriculture gradually acquired through mutual-aid and cooperation.

In the fall of 1951 the state farm's winter wheat acreage was expanded considerably. Despite this, the use of machinery enabled deep ploughing and thorough harrowing in just a week's time. Moreover, scientific farming methods and seed sterilization were put into effect. That year 7,200 acres were planted to wheat.

Peasants came from all over the province to inspect the fine crop, some traveling a great distance to have a look. The visit to the Huang Fan Chu State Farm gave these veteran tillers of the soil a chance to view the finest wheat shoots they had ever seen.

Throughout the province, peasants have been organizing mutual-aid teams and have tried to follow the state farm's example in adopting improved techniques. Peasants within the immediate area continuously request the state farm to plough their land with its machinery.

THE Huang Fan Chu State Farm is constantly developing. Scores of young men and women are being trained as tractor drivers and combine operators. To fulfill its plan of turning out 500 agricultural technicians, tractor drivers and combine operators in five years, the farm continues

For the past two years China has produced an exportable grain surplus.

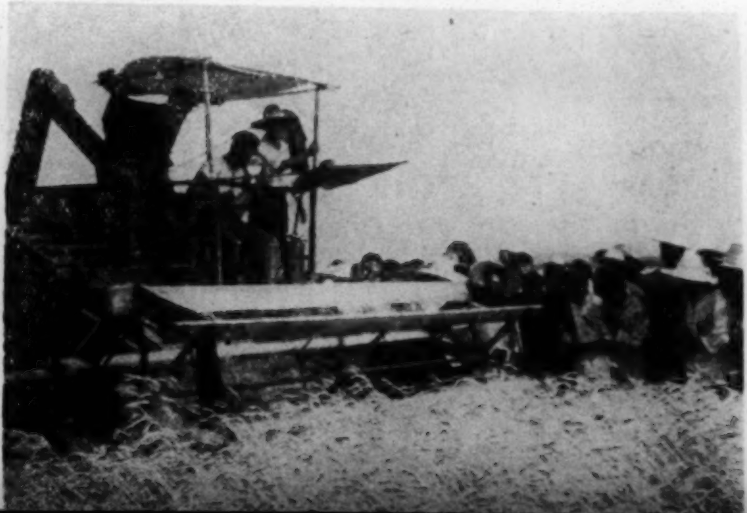
to enlist aspiring young peasants from the neighboring areas. At the same time, Soviet methods of farming, including crop and grass rotation and close planting, are being studied and applied.

Last September, the farm, together with eight other state mechanized farms, issued a challenge to the whole country, pledging to attain a target for winter wheat which would be 50 percent above its previous crop. In backing up its challenge, the Honan farm has applied the Soviet method of narrow-space drilling to its own acreage of more than 6,100 acres.

In addition to the main crops of wheat, cotton and barley, apples, grapes and other fruit are being grown on nearly 700 acres. Work on a forest belt around the farm is under way, with 100,000 saplings being planted last spring.

China's state farms, although comparatively small in number and total acreage, have already made an important contribution to the nation's agriculture. Their successful use of modern agricultural machinery and employment of scientific farming techniques have given China's farmers a look at the future. In even the most remote hamlets, peasants are confidently adopting new techniques which were first tried out on the Huang Fan Chu and other state farms.

China's new state farms have become demonstration centers where modern machinery and newest methods are first tried out. Neighborhood peasants crowd a state farm in Anhwei province to watch wheat being harvested.



LETTER TO AN ENGLISH FRIEND

Dear John:

Can't think how we lost touch with each other; probably my fault for not informing you of my change of address. Anyhow, here it is.

You are no doubt anxious to know how we all are here. Well, John, you remember how we used to have long arguments about politics when we were at Oxford. I was then a leftist in theory only; now I have seen it happen here.

Liberation has wrought miracles to China and the Chinese. Change is a mild word. Not having seen the old China, you couldn't possibly gauge the degree of transformation. It is no less an eye-opener to me.

You may remember how I seldom talked about China. At that time I could not help having a feeling of racial inferiority, seeing how things were in my country. Now China is the one subject that I can write endless books about.

Space does not permit me to describe all the changes or any particular one in detail and, while it is pretty vague to say that China is no longer corrupt and backward but strong and united, isolated examples might be misleading. But knowing me as you do, you can at least trust my veracity and impartiality.

At first I had my doubts, having imperceptibly imbibed too much anti-Red propaganda, but after three years of living in the new society, the 1,001 things seen and heard dispel all illusions. We Chinese are now firmly convinced that this is the road to peace, progress and happiness. We are confident of our future, because our dreams have already come true, because the process of materialization is daily unfolding before our very eyes, because we are determined that our efforts shall not be in vain.

You may have heard, on the contrary, all sorts of truly alarming stories. Assuming they did originate from eye witnesses (which is by no means the case), all I can say is that these ''witnesses'' are a minute minority who, having profited handsomely by the old order at the expense of the mass of the people, today have developed a warped outlook. They naturally see everything out of focus.

It is true there are fewer cars in the street and hardly any sales of American refrigerators, but those who could afford them formed a very, very small percentage of the total population. The greatly increased number of public buses, and the unprecedented sales of cloth and fountain pens are totally unnoticed by the jaundiced eyes of our critics.

Again, they have probably felt badly the scarcity of Coca Cola and chewing gum, so badly in fact that they are unable to notice the much improved diet of the farmers and laborers. In short, they measure the state of the country solely in terms of their personal gratification.

I hope I have succeeded in putting my finger on the spot. What's more, as things work out the luxuries formerly enjoyed by the few will be commonplace in the not too distant future.

So much for China.

As for England, where I presume you are, since I read of the evacuation of British personnel from Iran some time ago, it must be quite different from the England I knew, with legacies of the war, such as rationing and high prices, still lingering on. I hope that you, a veteran of the last war, have joined the world-wide peace movement.

How are the Parkers? Are they still at Moorside?

Best of luck.

Sincerely,

Sego Yang

Opening up the Northwest

The Railway Moves On

Hsiao Feng

ON September 27, 1825, the world's first railway line was opened. It ran between Stockton and Darlington in England, where there were scenes of extraordinary excitement and enthusiasm as immense crowds assembled from far and near to witness this historic event.

Similar scenes of jubilation and excitement were enacted on September 30, last year, when 30,000 spectators gathered by the tracks outside Lanchow railway station to see with their own eyes the arrival of the first train ever to enter Lanchow, at the very heart of China.

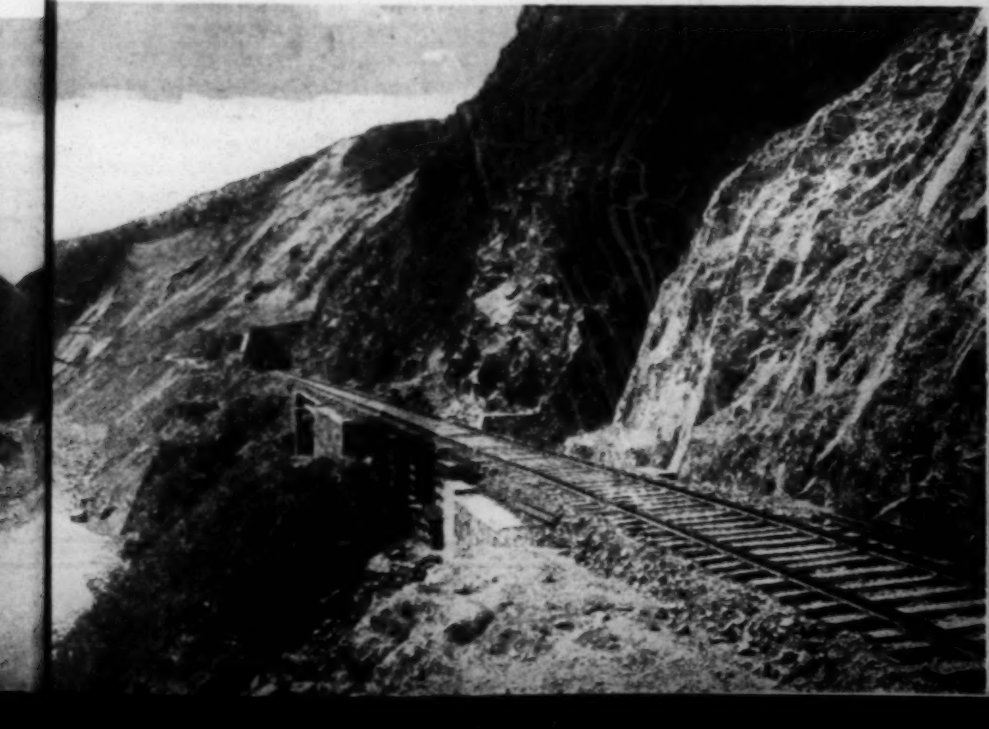
The outside world has long been prone to dismiss China's great Northwest as scarcely more than border wasteland; this is far from being the truth. The region's great wealth is in mineral and animal products. Even before the Anti-Japanese war, it produced 70 percent of the total wool output of the country.

Throughout the centuries, development of the region was curtailed by poor transport facilities. Cattle, wool,

hides and other animal products were exported and foodstuffs, tea, cloth and other manufactured goods brought in, all by pack animals. For more than half a century the people of the region had stressed the need for a railway, to speed up trade and to lower the exceedingly high prices of imported commodities.

Now this has been done. Just 16 days after the new line was opened to traffic, reduction of prices was effected on 57 categories of the chief commodities in this area. For example, tea was reduced 3.5 percent. At the same time, the selling price of animal products increased and wool sold for 4.1 percent higher, which was of great benefit to the inhabitants, a great many of whom are sheep herders.

The Lanchow Railway has been one of the most difficult engineering jobs undertaken in new China. Photo shows section of the line, carved out of the man-made shelf on a mountain overlooking a stream below. In background may be seen entrance to one of the many new tunnels which dot the line.



The merchants say, "The opening of the railway shortens the time of transportation by half and doubles our capital turnover." Not only is trade more active: there are now favorable conditions for the industrialization of the area because of its large deposits of coal and oil. The area is also rich in iron, gypsum, salt and gold.

Flour mills and factories for making modern farm implements have already been built and are being enlarged. Plans are being made to replace the handicraft industries with machine production, and to set up new power-plants, fertilizer-making factories, and woolen mills.

The Tienshui-Lanchow line is in Kansu province and is 227 miles long. It is the western section of the Lunghai line which cuts across the continent of China. Starting from the port of Haichow, Shantung, it crosses the two provinces of Honan and Shensi, and now ends at Lanchow, Kansu. When it is linked up with the Lanchow-Sinkiang and the Tienshui-Chengtu lines, the rapid economic development of China's Northwest will be carried a step further.

Like the Chengtu-Chungking railway completed in June of last year, this line was built under unusual difficulties. From Tienshui westward it passes through the Lungshan mountain range, 3,000 meters above sea level,

AT THE NEW

I STOOD at the Tienshui railway station, in the midst of bustling activity, trying hard to believe the railway worker who was telling me, "This was a desolate spot just one year ago."

I looked at the new depot, railway shops and offices, the rows of freight trains lined up, and the passengers bustling about. I heard the neighing of horses, and the shouts of a guard warning a cattleman to be careful lest his charges be frightened by the train whistle, telling him also that at a station some miles ahead there would be time to give the animals a drink.

I smelled the pungent aromas—horses, cattle, fresh wood, and the fascinating fragrance from the east-

and crosses the winding Wei and Chinshui gorges. The new line includes over 1,000 bridges and more than 50 tunnels, one of which is 1,980 meters long.

Knowing the economic value of the railroad, all the workers exerted great effort not only to overcome difficulties, but also to devise various methods of improving their work and raising efficiency. As a result the railroad was completed eight months ahead of schedule.

TIENSHUI RAILWAY STATION

bound freight — rhubarb, licorice, herbs destined for ports as distant as Shanghai.

Tienshui, in Kansu province, is an important junction on the new railway which bisects China, and before 1956 will run to the border of the Soviet Union. Three policemen stood on the Hwei River bridge, guiding the busy traffic of trucks and cattle.

One of the cattle dealers, a friend of mine from Honan, was formerly a peasant with only two *mou* of land, now has 14 *mou*, and with some of his villagers, had secured loans from the government, and come to buy mules, horses and donkeys. "Draught animals are in demand in every village," he said.

Not only herbs were eastbound—scores of workers were also rolling petroleum tanks, with their precious oil from the great deposits in Sinkiang province. The westbound trains are always loaded with building materials — timber from the Northeast, cement from the North and rails from the East.

For all its bustling activity, Tienshui has as yet no electricity. But in the railway station hangs a painting illustrating a Lenin-Stalin discussion on the electrification project of the Soviet Union. In the picture, Lenin's desk is illuminated by a candle. But consider the industrialization of the Soviet Union today! Tienshui, too, is on its way.

A visit to the

SHANGHAI WORKERS' CLUB

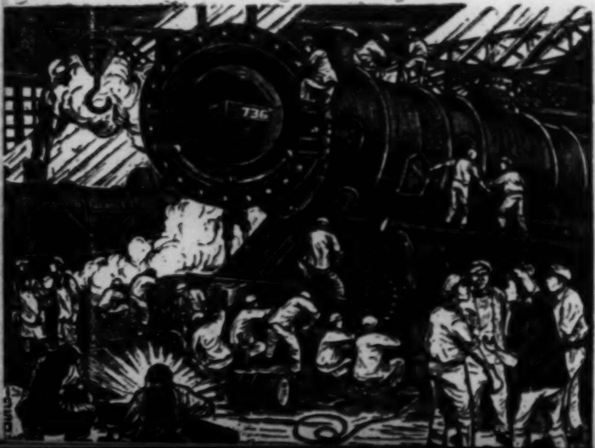
Yang Li-hsin

IN addition to hundreds of neighborhood and factory clubs, Shanghai's more than 1,000,000 workers and their families have a large social and recreational center, the Workers' Cultural Palace.

This chief workers' club, located in downtown Shanghai, is housed in a seven-story building which was formerly a second-rate hotel catering mainly to "tired businessmen" who felt the need for a little gambling or wenching, speculators and blackmarketeers, and sing-song girls.

Because of its central location, the Shanghai Trade Union Council bought the building soon after liberation and converted this one-time tawdry hotel into a workers' leisure time recreation center. A year after its October 1, 1950, opening the building was once again thoroughly renovated in accordance with workers' suggestions, and it reopened last May. Daily attendance now averages 16,000, with more on Sundays and holidays.

Under Chiang Kai-shek a gathering of workers was grimly looked upon as "social unrest" if not outright "revolution." Today, services which a worker could not even dream about before liberation are on hand. In addition to its recreational and cultural facilities, this workers' center houses a clinic and dental department. Treatment is available at reasonable rates.



Rush repair of a locomotive.

— *Shih Ko*

Internal diseases and eye and ear disorders are treated and minor surgical operations performed.

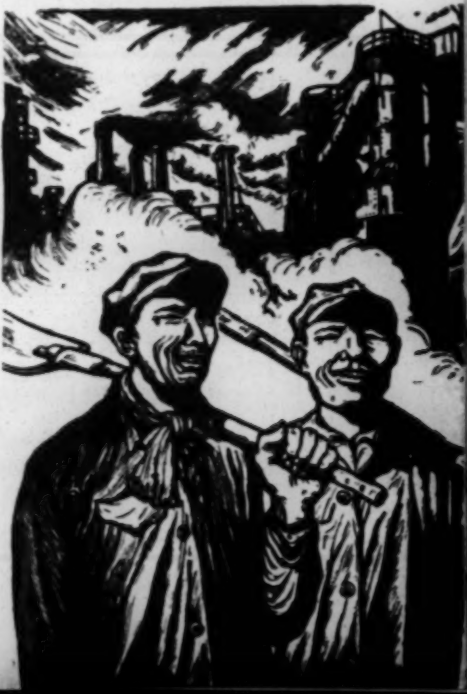
AN afternoon or evening at the Shanghai Workers' Cultural Palace gives a picture of the many facilities available to workers and their family members. A worker can enjoy himself here at little or no cost. For instance, he or she can join group dancing and singing in the music hall which seats 500 people. Organized study and discussions on literature, arts, drawing and current events are held regularly. Free movies are shown daily in the 400-seat theater; on occasion popular operas are staged in the evenings either by local professional troupes or workers' own groups.

The evening I visited this club the well-known folk opera "Wang Kwei and Li Shiang-shiang" was being performed by a popular Shanghai opera troupe, and the theater was packed.

In addition, there is a ping pong room, a chess room and a large lounge where candies and cigarettes are sold below prevailing prices,

The Shanghai Workers' Cultural Palace serves as an educational as well as recreational center. Two large rooms make up the library where newspapers, magazines, and books are available. The library is well-stocked with a wide range of books which include social and natural science, philosophy, the arts, applied techniques, history and geography as well as fiction. Nearly 1,000 books are borrowed daily.

As with other sections of the club, the library welcomes suggestions and criticisms for improving its service. Replies to written remarks are made public by the library five days after being received. Suggestions and criticisms made



Full blast.

— *Wang Chi*

by members are open to public view, and the majority call for more copies of newspapers, magazines and books.

Well-prepared and organized exhibitions are a regular feature. Five separate exhibitions, for instance, were staged at one time recently. One was on workers' drawings reflecting improved conditions since liberation. A popular picture was one portraying worker-students clustering around the front gate of a school. Hundreds of thousands of workers are now attending school, something impossible in old China.

The largest of the five simultaneous exhibitions was on Shanghai's industrial production. Hundreds of inventions and innovations, all made here in the past three years, were concrete evidence of Chinese workers' ingenuity and resourcefulness.

To name a few of the products shown: there were carbon black, an important ingredient in the rubber industry;

OLD MAN LI JOINS

LI Chien-chung, a Youth League member, and his father had not had an easy life. When the good earth belonged to the hard-fisted landlords the two of them worked hard and long to eke out a living in this small district near Kunming. Liberation had roused old Li from hopeless apathy; however, once he received his plot of land in land reform, the revolution was over as far as he was concerned.

When the old fellow heard of something called a mutual-aid team, his jaw set grimly and he wanted to have nothing to do with it. As a Youth Leaguer, young Li Chien-chung was supposed to help organize a team for the spring plowing; and so he came up against his own father. The old man's stock reply was to shake his head gravely, muttering: "Don't you know the old saying, 'Don't listen to your elders and you'll run into trouble!' There are four in the family and we can handle our seven *mou* of land without anyone else's help."

Chien-chung appealed to his mother. But when she brought up the subject her husband flew into a rage even before she could finish telling how a mutual-aid team a 20-digit calculating machine; electric meters; an electric operated leakage detector; a boring machine; a 15,000 k.w.h. electric transformer and a 300 k.w.h. generator; a rotary press; and an automatic weaving machine which can turn out 40 yards of cloth every eight hours.

Another outstanding product on display was acid-protected ceramics. Before liberation, a French technician in the local Tien Yuan Electro-Chemical Factory spent several years attempting, without success, to produce a certain type of acid-resistant ceramics. After liberation, workers and technicians in this factory have been able to turn out acid-proof ceramics in sufficient quantities to meet the needs of the nation's chemical industry.

Wandering through the many sections of this fine building, it is difficult not to recall the recent past when a place such as this was impossible. Today, things are different.

A MUTUAL-AID TEAM

would help their production. "Go call a meeting and give my share of the land back!" he roared.

Young Li, after some more thought, came up with a new attempt. Confront his father with a combination of theory put into practice was his new tack. So he got Mrs. Lin, their next-door neighbor, to join the team first. Before she had had to hire four farmhands, which meant selling her beans and wheat out of season at a low price in order to pay the wages. This year, three members of a mutual-aid team completed the work on her land in one day. Her only duty was weeding grass.

With this before his eyes, old man Li grudgingly consented to join. When the work on the Li land was finished in three days the old man's growls grew softer and more infrequent. Sometime later, when the district government gave the team a low-interest rate loan to buy some seed and farm equipment, including a big draft horse, the old man came all the way around. Today he's one of the team's most enthusiastic members and is an active promoter of the mutual-aid idea among his fellow farmers.

WANG LAO-SHANG:

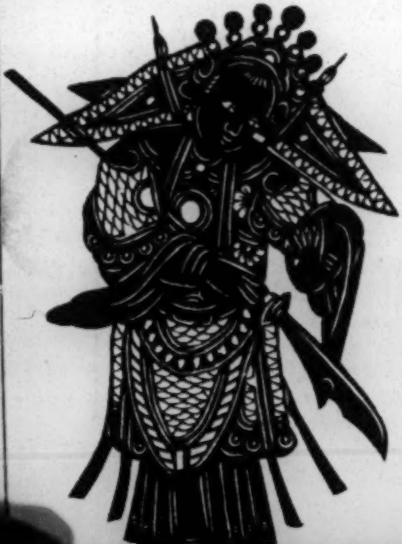
A Peasant Artist

FOR centuries paper cut-outs have been used to decorate doors and windows in the homes of Chinese peasants. This simple but highly expressive art form is becoming more and more popular in new China.

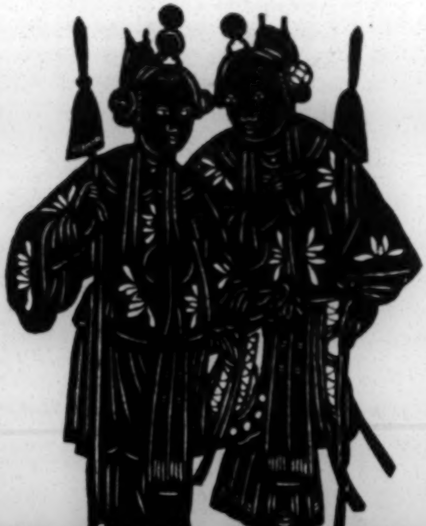
Wang Lao-shang, who died in Chahar province in Inner Mongolia last year at the age of 61, devoted nearly half a century to this work. An ordinary peasant, Wang was particularly known for his paper cut-outs dealing with popular characters from the Chinese theater. According to incomplete findings of the Chahar Literary Association, he produced more than 800 cut-outs of this type.

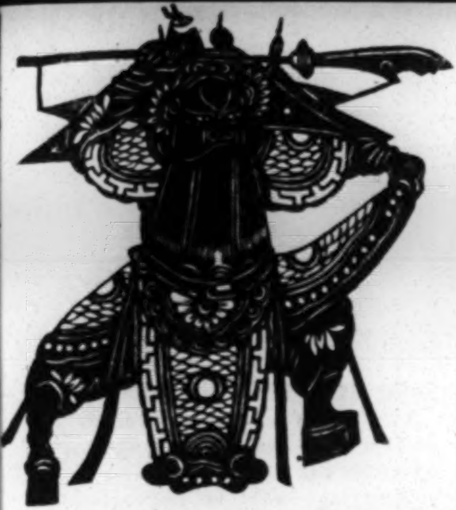
Combining realism with a rich background of Chinese painting, Wang Lao-shang added to this by constantly studying the actions and facial expressions of the actor on the stage. The content and quality of his work make it difficult to imagine that they are the products of an untutored peasant. All of his

Liu Chin-ting in "Scheme of Bamboo Grove."



Fan Li-hua and Hsueh Chin-lien in "Fan Kiang Gate."





Wang Hung in "Shou Shih Ridge."

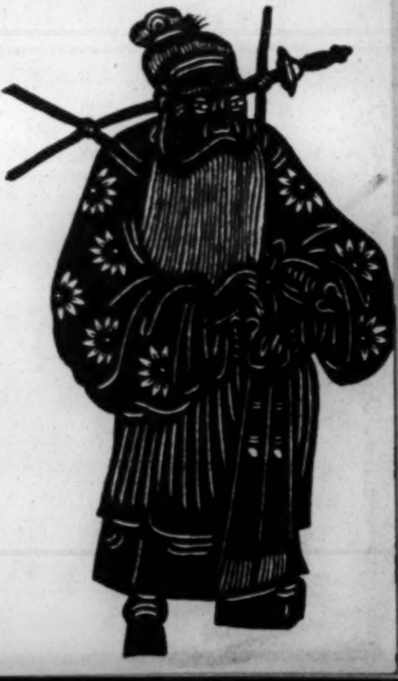
creation, whether in costume, make-up or expression, conform with the actual stage conditions. Even in such minute matters as ornaments, costume designs, weapons, and so forth, Wang's cut-outs are detailed replicas of the theater the Chinese peasant and city dweller alike are so familiar with.

Wang Lao-shang added something new to the paper cut-out. In general the cut-out is rough, looking somewhat like the Chinese style of brush painting, which outlines a subject with only a few strokes. Wang's contours and designs are veritable perfections and give to the audience a strong feeling of reality, the structure of the work being entirely complete.

Among Wang's many works are a number of characters and scenes from some of China's oldest and most long-neglected stage presentations. These constitute a historical record of great value.

THE general method of making paper cut-outs is to trace the outlines first and cut several at once. From 60 to 70 sheets of paper can be cut at one time.

Peasants generally make cut-outs during the slack season on the farm, especially in the early fall. Purchases of paper cut-outs are at their peak around Chinese lunar New Year, the beginning of spring.



Yang Po in "Ma Fang Besieges a City."

The MARRIAGE LAW IN ACTION

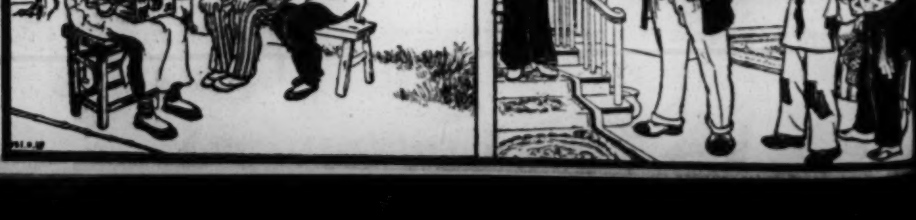
Shirley Ray Wood

THE drafting of the marriage law in April 1950 which destroyed the traditional bondage of the Chinese woman, is by no means a snap ruling handed down by some politician, nor is it a copy of the Soviet marriage law, from which it needs must differ, due to different social conditions.

The law was adopted only after months of intensive preparation under the direction of various women's organizations, and has required much painstaking effort to put into practical use, since it entirely upsets the whole feudal idea which had become ingrained in Chinese civilization down through the ages.

Marriage now is and must be based on mutual love and respect of the two principals. Polygamy, concubinage, child betrothal, interference with the remarriage of widows and the exaction of money or gifts in connection with marriages are all prohibited. The marriage law should please the Lucy Stone League. Women now can and often do legally use their own names in pre-

One of the methods used to popularize China's marriage law has been the publication of numerous posters, pamphlets and small books, which are widely distributed through women's organizations and explain all aspects of the law. The drawings below and on the following pages are reproduced from a pocket-size book, which is illustrated in a manner similar to comic books.



ference to the husbands'. Children may take their mother's maiden name if they wish.

The promulgation of this law was greeted with a wave of divorces, so much so that in some districts more than half the civil law suits were divorce cases. This was partly due to the backlog of bad marriages created by the old system, also partly due to the enthusiasm of inexperienced civil servants determined to liberate China's womanhood. Thus, at first many cases which could have been mediated were settled by divorce.

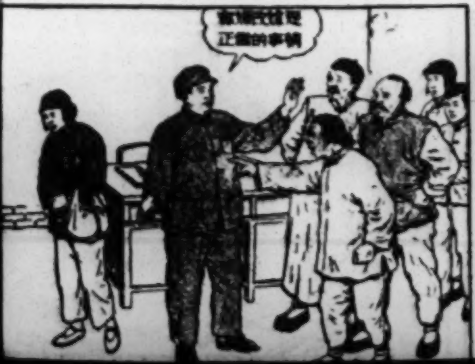
In country areas, where the situation was more serious than in the cities, the other side of the coin also showed. The local administrators had been the most active among the poor peasants. However, they had little or no education and were still much bound by superstition and tradition and therefore, many had a narrow point of view, and were particularly backward in their attitude toward the "woman question."

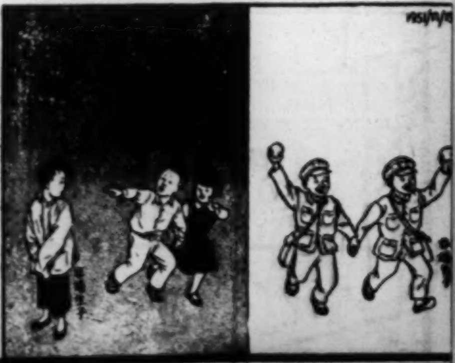
In 1951, the government organized its forces to combat this confusion. Much popular literature on the subject was published, one of the best being a small booklet of the "comic book" type, explaining the law item by item with pictures juxtaposed. This type of literature has been found to appeal most to the semi-literate.

At the same time, education on the basis of this booklet was carried out in the Fu Nu Hui (Women's Association) literacy classes and through its basic organizations. This Family Women's United Organization is unofficial—it has

Opposite page. Left. Marriage arrangements used to be governed by superstitions, and fortune tellers were often consulted. Right: Concubinage is now outlawed; formerly, wealthy men could buy several wives.

Below. Left: Under the marriage law in-laws cannot interfere with the re-marriage of widows. Right: Illegitimate children today enjoy the same rights as other children.





close connections with, but is not part of the state structure. In new China it occupies the same position and performs the same duties for women and their families as the union does for workers.

Training classes on the marriage law were started for publicity personnel. Teams of such trained personnel carried out publicity and education work throughout the countryside and straightened out cases which had been mismanaged by some local authorities.

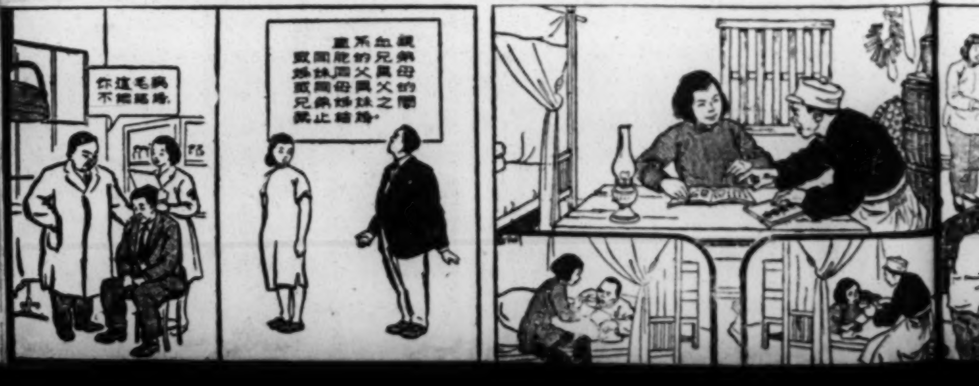
In Shanghai, these classes were under the joint direction of the district governments and the Fu Nu Hui organizations in the various sections of the city. All representatives from the lane clubs of the Fu Nu Hui were required to attend. Voluntary attendance of other women was welcome. The personnel trained in these classes were to carry out educational work in their localities.

After a preliminary study of the marriage law and relevant material the classes were given cases reported to the police, the Fu Nu Hui or the district government, for a hearing and an attempt at settlement. This acquainted them with variations on the different problems. After reviewing a case the classes would discuss how to settle it within the framework of the law. In cases of marital disputes, the emphasis would be always on preserving the family unit if possible.

A CASE in my neighborhood was settled by the class which my neighbor attended in the spring of 1952.

Our local druggist is in his late 'thirties. He appears to think himself handsome, and

Left: Pre-marital medical examination is now compulsory. Those suffering from any serious disease may not obtain a marriage license. Right: Today the running of the household is the equal responsibility of both husband and wife. Each should perform a share of the work and they should look after one another in sickness.

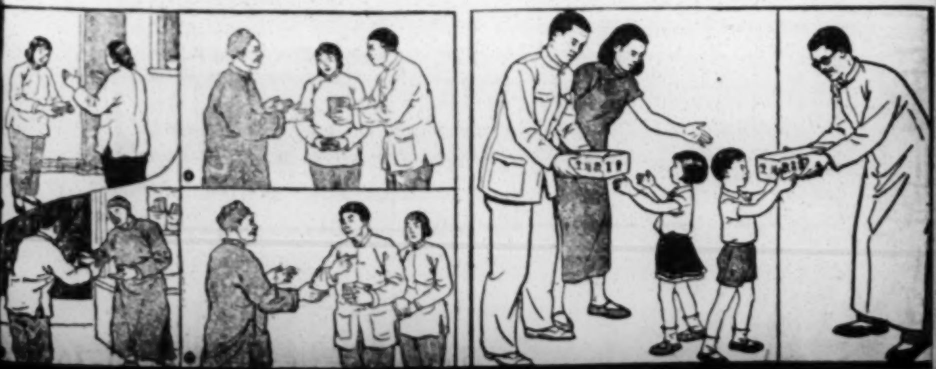

你這毛病
不能結婚.
直系血親
或同胞的兄弟
姊妹同父異母
或同母異父的
兄弟姊妹之間
禁止結婚。

carefully waves his hair. He likes to display his "knowledge" by asking whether I want an imported or domestic brand whenever I buy anything. (I suspect that his apparent desire to push imported drugs stems from their higher price and rate of profit). He invariably demonstrates his erudition by writing out my receipts in English for all medicines having foreign names. During last year's anti-corruption campaign, both his front windows were covered with denunciations which his clerks had written up. His sins were chiefly tax evasion and selling fake medicines.

He has a pleasant, pretty wife; however, he dislikes monotony, and when he brought an 18-year-old girl to work in his store, his wife, although not unduly suspicious, began to suspect mischief, and demanded that the girl be discharged. The druggist preferred his girl-friend, but unfortunately for him the law forbids a man to divorce his wife within a year after the birth of a child—and his wife had just presented him with a son. However, the law allows a wife to divorce her husband at any time, with good reason. Therefore he started abusing her, thinking thereby to make her sue for divorce.

The wife had started attending the Fu Nu Hui literacy classes, and showed the organization a letter which had fallen into her hands, a very warm letter indeed, from the girl-friend to the husband. The Fu Nu Hui considered this evidence enough to open the case. With proof of the existence of such personal relations, both the druggist and the girl could be prosecuted for conspiring to force a divorce by violence.

Left: In case of divorce husband and wife should each settle their own individually contracted debts; jointly contracted debts should be settled jointly. **Right:** If the divorced mother re-marries and the new husband is willing partially or wholly to support her children by the previous marriage, the divorced father's burden may be lessened.



The case was given to the marriage law class, which interviewed separately all the parties concerned. The girl's mother threatened to sue the wife and the Fu Nu Hui for defamation of her daughter's character, but the girl's father wanted the matter settled fairly and with the least unpleasantness for his daughter. The druggist, who had not seen the full letter (it was held safely as Exhibit A) felt on uneasy ground and, after a final meeting, broke down and confessed all, promised to see the girl no more and to stop maltreating his wife. The girl, seeing the case was hopeless and fearing the embarrassment she would have to face in open court, agreed.

Under the old system the girl would simply have become the "small wife" and the druggist would have maintained two families.

China's Marriage Law

Article 3. Marriage shall be based upon the complete willingness of the two parties. Neither party shall use compulsion and no third party shall be allowed to interfere.

Article 4. A marriage can be contracted only after the man has reached 20 years of age and the woman has reached 18 years of age.

Article 7. Husband and wife are companions living together and shall enjoy equal status in the home.

Article 9. Both husband and wife shall have the right to free choice of occupation and free participation in work or social activities.

Article 13. Parents have the duty to rear and to educate their children; the children have the duty to support and assist the parents.

Article 15. Children born out of wedlock shall enjoy the same rights as children born in lawful wedlock. No person shall be allowed to harm or discriminate against children born out of wedlock. Where the paternity of a child born out of wedlock is legally established . . . the identified father must bear the whole or part of the cost of maintenance and education of the child until it has attained the age of 18.

INTERNATIONAL NOTES

Operation "Backfire" in Korea

FORMER Eighth Army commander in Korea, Van Fleet added one more blunder to his list just before being "retired." On January 26, the Americans attempted to put on a show for visiting dignitaries to the Korean front.

According to a *UP* report from Seoul, "High brass and correspondents—provided in advance with a pamphlet describing each phase of the attack—watched from bunkers. Called 'Operation Smack,' it had been planned since January 19."

The same report stated: ". . . UN troops took a licking on the western Korean front in an elaborately planned 'program' raid. The four and one-half hour raid was the heaviest ground action of the new year. Allied infantry, tanks, flame-throwers, artillery and planes were thrown into the unsuccessful assault. . .

"But the Chinese Reds were ready. They caught the charging UN infantrymen in a deadly crossfire. Then the Allied troops tried to burn out the Reds with flame-throwers. However, in many instances the flame-throwers ran out of fuel. *AP* correspondent Forrest Edwards reported from the scene—at the southern end of T-Bone Hill—that a hail of artillery shells and napalm also failed to dislodge the Communists. An Eighth Army spokesman declined to report Allied casualties . . ."

Reaction to Van Fleet's "show" in Washington found "one House member" citing the "attack on T-Bone hill as proof that a frontal assault on Red lines would be too costly in lives to be practical. Allied planes and artillery blasted the hill into what should have been nothing but rubble. But when Allied infantrymen moved up the ridge Red soldiers rose unscathed from holes and nailed the attack with grenades and rifle fire. Not even the atomic bomb could be counted on to drive the Communists from tunnels and trenches, Congressional experts believed," *UP* reported gloomily from Washington on January 27.

ANOTHER top retired US general had bad news for policy-makers bent on extending the Korean war. Former commander of US occupation troops in Japan, Lieutenant-General Eichelberger, in an article in *Newsweek*, stated that "all available" US troops could not crack the strong Communist line in Korea. The general claimed that US troops would meet a "bloody defeat" if they tried to break the present Communist line because "we do not have the power, even if reinforced by all available troops in the US."

In his article, Eichelberger said that the defeat of such an attack would be even "worse" than that handed to MacArthur, when he pushed his troops almost to the Manchurian border.

Eichelberger, a long-time advocate of using "cheap" Asian manpower, said his "solution" to the Korean war stalemate is to replace American troops with Koreans. The general failed to discuss how South Korean troops would be able to "crack the strong Communist line in Korea."

Philippine Politicking

THE 1953 November elections in the Philippines promise "to be the dirtiest ever," according to a radio interview given by Manila's Mayor Lacson. No callow youth himself in the ways of "free elections" in the Philippines, (the *Hongkong Standard* of January 28 noted that "the world now accepts coercion and padding the vote as an integral part of Filipino elections") the mayor's radio remark was brought on by President Quirino's maneuvers to make the Philippine constabulary force independent of the army. This would enable Quirino to have "a force loyal to him in an emergency, such as at a general election," according to the Hongkong daily.

Commenting on the Quirino party's move to separate the constabulary from the army, *Agence France Presse* notes that "this has been the most ominous statement to come from the Liberal administration party. For the Filipinos would never forget that it was the constabulary more than the army which sowed terror in the 1949 presidential elections. It was also the constabulary . . . which looked the other way when the corrupt leaders allowed birds, bees, leaves and ghosts to cast their ballots for the Liberal Party.

"It was also the constabulary . . . together with the so-called Civilian Guards (armed units of the powerful landlords) that threatened the rural voting population with reprisals, and even death, if they would not vote for the Liberal Party. The armed forces were . . . also guilty of perpetrating mass electoral frauds, but it was the constabulary which led the way," stated the French news agency.

COMMENTING on the "awkward problem" the US faces in the Philippines, the *Manchester Guardian* recently stated editorially that "if it goes on handing money to President Quirino, it can be accused of backing reaction. The (Philippines) government seems to be [determined to] follow in a preposterous way the worst examples of Kuomintang China."

In mid-January, reports from Manila revealed that the Philippine Council of State agreed with President Quirino to shelve for the time being the proposal to send a mission to the US to negotiate for the revision of the 1946 US-Philippines Trade Act (the Bell Trade Act).

The Council of State's decision came in the face of widespread demand for a revision of the act. According to *Agence France Presse* last April, even the Quirino government was "awakening to the dreadful realization that unless the pact was modified the Philippine economy may forever be diseased."

Last year the Central Bank of the Philippines had called for a revision of the Bell Act. At the same time, the National Economic Council had drawn up a list of proposed amendments to the act.

Under the present arrangements, the US controls the Philippine currency besides being able to export its goods in unlimited quantity to the Philippines, while the entry of Philippine products to the US is restricted.

Japan's Economy Slumps

THE "boom" which struck Japan after the outbreak of the war in Korea has begun to wear out. In the first year of the war, production jumped 40 percent but since the beginning of last year output has leveled off with good-sized declines in some lines. Japanese industry, subject to US domination of the Yoshida government, is caught between a drop in orders from US armed forces and a restricted market abroad.

US spending for Japanese war materials and services in connection with Korea, which averaged US$30,000,000 a month in 1951, dropped to a low of US$6,000,000 last May. Although US orders increased after May they were not expected to exceed US$150,000,000 for all of 1952.

In spite of demands from industry and commercial groups for trade with new China the Yoshida government has said no, urging them to seek markets in Southeast Asia. However, here the Japanese were up against long-time British strongholds, and as early as last September "an all-out 'textile war' between

Japan and the United Kingdom appeared inevitable," according to a *Reuter* dispatch from Tokyo.

While US orders and remilitarization were keeping the Japanese armaments industry going, the future for other industry was bleak. To feed its population and keep industries operating, Japan must import 20 percent of its food supply, all of the raw cotton for the textile industry, and most of the iron ore, coking coal and other raw materials for the steel industry. The only way to get money to pay for these things is through large-scale trade. (*US News and World Report*, Tokyo, September 12, 1952).

No Comment Needed

AMERICAN policy immediately after World War II called for the complete disarmament of Japan.

The Japanese were told they should not have a military establishment and should endeavor to become the "Switzerland of the Far East."

Today American policy has changed and an American official here, after studying the situation, said: "I think we oversold the Japanese on our 1945 ideas."

Privately, US diplomatic and military officials here say one of their toughest jobs is to get the Japanese interested in rearmament and preparations for self-defense. . .

Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida, who is not ahead of the masses, has already started Japan on the road to slow rearmament, and he frequently gets criticized by the voters. . .

He even is criticized by the Americans, who think he is not moving fast enough. Yoshida, however, knows the feeling of his people and knows that it takes time to "educate" public thinking in a democracy.

The success of the original American "selling" is readily seen in public opinion polls and noticed immediately in any conversation, especially talks with younger people.

The idea of Japan being a "Switzerland of the Far East" . . . is still appealing . . .

UP, Tokyo, January 6, 1953.

However, "economists see little prospect of boosting exports appreciably in the next few years. Industrial production, they believe, is not likely to increase much beyond the present level, even if the arms industry is restarted. They see steady increasing unemployment and a steady dropping living standard for Japan."

Japan's economic position continued to decline in the first half of the current fiscal year, according to reports by the Economic Deliberation Board, which advises the cabinet on economic conditions. A board report revealed that discouraging factors had appeared which included a decrease in the nation's foreign currency holdings and the unhealthy maintenance of unprofitable industries. "These defects in the nation's economy might come to the fore during the second half of the present year," reported the board.

The growing depression and a standard of living lower than pre-war has brought on increasing labor unrest (*US News and World Report*). Beginning last October more than 120,000 Japanese power workers carried out a series of short-term strikes for higher wages, resulting in hundreds of idle factories. At the same time, over 250,000 of the nation's coal miners (all except those still working in small mines and not members of the Federation of Coal Miners) continued to strike for a wage increase.

Nation-wide strikes and work stoppages carried over into 1953. Large cities, such as Tokyo, found themselves completely disrupted because of the power, transport and coal strikes. As a result, train services in Tokyo were cut by 30 percent, domestic shipping was completely tied up and telephone and telegraph services slowed down.

FROM the US and Britain came testimony to Japan's economic woes. In London, the *Manchester Guardian* said that the Japanese economic position was "extremely difficult" and warned that the country's exports had to be greatly increased if she wanted to survive.

At the same time an economist, Harry S. Robinson, with the Stanford Research Institute described the economic situation in Japan as critical (*UP*, San Francisco, January 29). Citing the need for US investments in Japan, Robinson said the discontinuance of US "aid" and the Korean stalemate were contributing factors in the present drop in Japan's economy.

Robinson's cure for Japan's economic illness was that "she must stimulate and encourage private investment by foreign companies and financial interests."

Shanghai Revisited

H. COURTNEY ARCHER

AS I stood and looked over Shanghai's Chapoo Road Bridge, which arches over Soochow Creek just behind the British Consulate, I went back in memory to the time I first saw the creek and walked along Chapoo Road. It was the summer of 1946, and to me, coming from the cool green hills of Yunnan, Shanghai seemed to broil, and its dusty streets were jammed.

The city was overcrowded then, with refugees driven down from North Kiangsu province by poverty and floods; with those who had spent the war years in the interior, with American soldiers and sailors, and with UNRRA officials living like old-style taipans in the big hotels, concerned as much with their cases of beer and canned foods to be transported for their inspection trips to the "interior" as with the urgently needed machinery, drugs and relief supplies.

Everywhere one saw the poor; grey-haired women and small children would beg at the bridge, while men pushed pedicabs up the bridge slope to earn a grudging tip. From the bridge, I watched the sunburned kids diving from the barges, sampans and junks that choked the creek diving into its black and stinking waters. How many fell victim to disease from this brief summertime cooling was anybody's guess.

Walking down into Chapoo Road, if the tide were high one would find the sewage had backed up and was several inches deep where it had flowed out of the gutter traps. Beyond were the dozens of little shops, the stalls selling noodles to the pedicab drivers, past the narrow, hot and airless lanes where the vast majority of Shanghai's population lived.

I recall in particular the lane called "Eternal Happiness," where several hundred families lived in small dark rooms, sharing one water tap and common toilet, where flies buzzed in black clouds over the piles of refuse, and the corner drain was, by necessity, used as a urinal.

Often a figure would glide

out of this and other lanes and nudging one's arm, query, "You want a nice girl, mister?" Chapoo Road ran through the center of the Hongkew district, near the riverfront and its notorious Broadway, where every second door led either to a bar or a brothel, or both. There drunken sailors would reel out into the streets, fight with fists and knives, beat up coolies and pedicab drivers, go off with the girls.

That summer of 1946 the Whangpoo River was full of the ships bringing UNRRA supplies, moored in three lines, stem to stern; and many had to wait at the river mouth for weeks for a berth. So hundreds of sailors came ashore, with plenty of money, and every night the patrol car sirens would wail as they headed for Broadway.

THIS picture, with all the sordidness of old Shanghai with its violence, its poverty, its reckless disregard for human lives came back to me when I was on Chapoo Bridge in November 1952. Today, Soochow Creek is different. Newly-installed water taps along its banks furnish clean water to the boats, traffic is regulated along the creek and the stevedores' union has built offices. New clinics have been opened along the creekside to serve the boatmen and their families.

And then I retraced old familiar steps down Chapoo Road, with a public health worker of the Hongkew district. At the entrance to the lane of "Eternal Happiness" we were met by a young man who had lived there for 10 years and was now responsible for public health work in the lane. Children, clean and neatly dressed, surrounded us.

There were new garbage-bins, fitted with tight fly-proof doors, emptied every day. There were new water taps, and a properly built urinal. Posters on the walls explained the marriage law, urged parents to inoculate children against smallpox and

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H. COURTNEY ARCHER is a member of the Friends Service Unit. He came to China in 1945 with the Friends Ambulance Unit and did medical work for one year in Yunnan province. In 1946, Mr. Archer went to the Bailie School in Sandan in Northwest China where he taught until June 1952. Returning to his native New Zealand in July 1952, Mr. Archer came to Peking as a New Zealand delegate to the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference last October, and after the conference he toured various parts of China with other members of his delegation.

Garden Bridge in Shanghai was reconditioned after years of neglect.

diphtheria, and the wall newspaper told of the progress of the public health campaign. The lane was swept spotless, and at intervals were small boxes for litter.

The public health worker and I continued up Chapoo Road, and I asked what had happened to the procurers and prostitutes, who used to live in this part of the city. Were they still around?

My companion then told me how the government had tackled the job of cleaning up the scores of brothels that had existed in the Hongkew area.

"It was not an easy job," he said, "and it had to be done step by step." He went on to explain that most of the girls in the brothels were there because they had been bought by agents who went out into the countryside where the peasants were poverty-stricken as a result of floods or famine. A favorite area was in North Kiangsu, where Huai River floods meant destitution for the peasants.

In his book, "Shanghai, City for Sale," Ernest O. Hauser tells how little girls were bought for about two silver dollars, and often sold at the age of 13 or 14 for 1,000 silver dollars.

To these girls, closeted away in back alleys, the realization of the change of government and what it meant, came slowly. Only after some of the worst brothel-keepers had been first apprehended did they realize that the old way of life had been brought to an end.

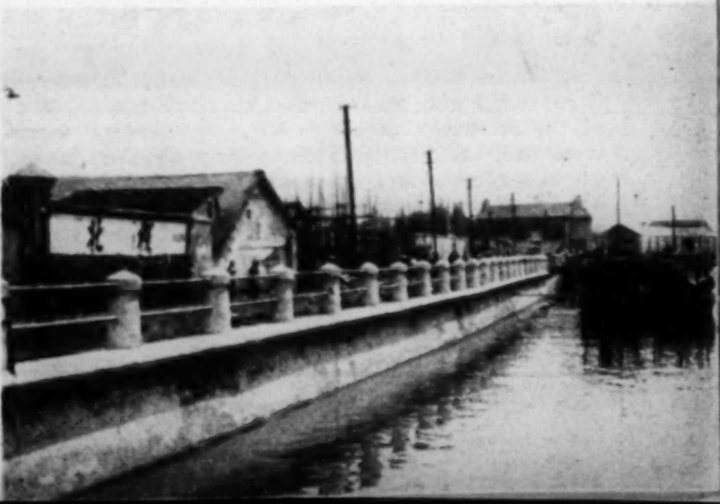
After a period of rehabilitation, which entailed a great deal of sympathetic understanding and help on the part of those working with them, some of the girls have returned to their homes in the countryside and others were assisted in finding work in the city.

Perhaps nothing better illustrates the changes which have taken place in this section of Shanghai where many working-class families live than the building now standing at the corner of the little park near the end of Chapoo Road.

Here, the China Welfare Institute, under the direction of Soong Ching-ling (Madame Sun Yat-sen) has established a children's library. Every day hundreds of children come to read the many books and picture magazines. The librarian explained that on Sundays over a thousand children visit the library—and as I looked at the black-haired heads bent over books it was hard to realize that only a few years ago these children spent most of their time playing in such dirty lanes as "Eternal Happiness" and "Heavenly Virtue."

Great change has come to hundreds of narrow lanes in Shanghai, and with this change has come the realization that through group action all things are possible.

A new retaining wall was recently constructed on the waterfront at Kwang Fu Road in Shanghai.



POW's LETTER

American POW's hopes for a speedy end to the war in Korea and doubts about US foreign policy were expressed in an open letter to President Eisenhower. The letter was signed by 44 American prisoners of war in North Korea.

* * *

"Dear Mr. President:

"We, American prisoners of war in North Korea, deem it our right and privilege as American citizens to speak out in reference to the Korean situation, and the international situation as a whole. . . .

"For nearly a year and a half now, peace negotiations have been carried on in Panmunjom, Korea, with no satisfactory or noticeable progress towards finding a peaceful conclusion to this war up to the present date. We do not feel, however, that the present prevailing attitude, in view of the recent recess of negotiations, shows a sincere desire to end this war on the part of the U.N. Delegation.

"We look to the new administration with the feeling of hope that some just settlement can and will be reached in the near future. We sincerely hope that the new administration will uphold the promises of its campaign in the eyes of the world. We are looking for peace, in Korea, and throughout the world, and we feel certain that the American people are also looking for this peace. We also feel that should the American foreign policy continue as it has in the recent past, it can only end in chaos for our people.

"We have many questions, and doubts in our minds; questions and doubts that we feel are also dominant in the minds of the American people as a whole. Among these are questions such as: 'Why, for the first time in history, has the question of voluntary repatriation arisen, at such a crucial time, when so much depends upon the successful outcome of the Korean negotiations?' and 'why is such an extensive armaments program being carried out by our government when the main issue in the world today is peace, not war?' . . . We would

TO EISENHOWER

also like to know why, in view of the international tension that has prevailed during the past few years, some effort hasn't been made to hold a meeting of the Great Powers, in order to gain a better understanding of each other, so that a firm, stabilized peace can be realized. We sincerely feel that such relations could be established if it was truly the desire of our leaders to do so.

". . . in Korea . . . a reasonable cease-fire line has already been agreed upon. Surely, the ever-mounting loss of American youths on the battlefield can never be considered a victory on the part of the American people, especially when, after two years of continual fighting, absolutely nothing has been accomplished that could prove a credit to the prestige of our nation.

"Therefore, in closing, we sincerely hope that you will take into consideration the above-mentioned points, and will do all within your power to bring a quick, just peace to Korea and assure us that there will be no future Koreas and no future wars for our generation, and the future generations of our nation yet to come. We also implore you to accept your post in the full tradition of our great nation and to live up to the glorious, righteous past of its people.

"We thank you, sincerely,"

(Signed) Fred Garza Jr. William Polee. Terron W. Sanchez. Otho G. Bell. Corporal John L. Dixon. Corporal Elias B. Villegas. Robert W. Allen. Johnny Walker. Joe Morrison. William C. White. Fred W. Porter. John L. Thomas. Frank J. Quarter. Paul F. Schnur Jr. Glenn E. Stotts. Rufus E. Douglas. Harold M. Dunny. Howard J. Beadleson. Samuel D. Hawkins. Roscoe Perry. Linton J. Dartez. Rogers Herndon. Joe B. Vara. Nathaniel S. Thomas. Larance V. Sullivan. Leroy Carter. Theodore L. Thompson. Robert H. Hickox. Howard G. Adams. Claude J. Batchelor. Clarence C. Adams. Ricardo H. Soto. Roy Atkins. Richard O. Morrison. James T. Pinkston. Donald B. Disney. Bennie D. Smith. Edward S. Dickenson. William R. Hinkle. John A. Wells. Lowell D. Skinner. Johnny B. Trevino. Harold E. Belden. Harry C. Copeland.

An American housewife describes :

Going to Market in Shanghai

Muriel Hoopes

"TO market, to market, to buy a fat pig; home again, home again, price is too big!"—so went the pre-liberation version of an old nursery rhyme. Prices have been stable for three years now, but before that the Shanghai housewife was hard put. Shopping was a constant struggle against inflation — the housewife trying to get as much as possible for her money before prices shot up again—and the merchant trying to offset the next price rise by overcharging.

The old market places were scenes of constant haggling, and times were so bad that petty thieves and snatchers were everywhere, so that it took a clever woman to get home with all her purchases.

Since the old government did nothing for the unemployed, half-starved beggars abounded, and who could blame them for trying to steal something to eat?

Evading the snatchers as best she could, and clutching her money tightly, the shopper would haggle with the stallkeepers over the price, and there would probably be a heated argument over the weight as well. She would usually take her own scale along, just to make sure. Shopping meant a quarrelsome, exhausting chore.

The scale, typical of Shanghai and everywhere in China is a graduated rod, hung by a string or a chain near one end. The object to be weighed is hung from the shorter end, and balanced by a weight moved along the longer end, which is graduated so the weight can be read off. These scales range from enormous ones with steel arms, hung in the wholesale markets by chains, to smaller black wood ones for the housewife, and even to the tiny ones with a brass pan, hung with silk thread, used in the banks to weigh gold.

Nowadays the shopper has no need to carry her own scale to market, nor does she argue over prices or fear thieves when she gets there. The municipal authorities require every market to have a blackboard where the day's prices are chalked up. To see that the customer gets the proper weight, an accurate test scale is available in each market in case of any question. The Chinese scale, for household purposes, is going out as time goes by.

GOING to market these days is a pleasure—one sees abundance everywhere. Some streets are closed off early in the morning, the stallkeepers roll in their stalls on small iron wheels, and there are great quantities of meat, eggs, fish and vegetables. Late in the morning, when most shoppers have departed, the litter is cleaned up, the stalls wheeled off and the street is opened to traffic again.

These colorful street markets are much cleaner than they were in the old days, as are the "supermarkets," big two-story concrete structures, open at the sides and filled with hundreds of stalls selling everything from fresh squid to canned bamboo shoots. Most canned goods are now put up in China, but one may still buy the remains of the flood of foreign canned foods that were dumped in Shanghai after VJ Day.

Going to the market early in the morning, our typical housewife might come first to the egg sellers, with great baskets and mounds of eggs of different sizes. Prices vary according to size, but the average is Y700 each (about 30 cents in US money per dozen).

After buying her eggs, she goes on to the meat stalls. For most Chinese the word "meat" is understood to mean pork; if any other meat is meant, the name of the animal prefaces the word "meat." The pork dealer has his own

The writer pauses in her shopping trip to ask the price of apples from a pedler close to the market.

stall, and sells nothing else; and the same is true of those selling beef or mutton. Pork sells for around 25 cents a *catty* (1.1 pounds).

Haunches and great slabs of fresh meat hang on hooks around the stall as though on a hatrack; each is stamped with the official seal of the government health inspection station at the city abbatoir.

Next, our housewife may buy some soya beans, or bean curd. The soya bean, which China abounds in, is very nourishing and largely takes the place of milk, although in large cities such as Shanghai dairies sell bottled pasteurized milk.

Milk made from soya beans is easy to prepare and is excellent with local crullers or sesame seed-topped griddle cakes. Next to rice, which is plentiful and cheap, soya beans are the cheapest staple food in China. Rice is not sold in the market place. Whole shops are given over to it alone. One does not usually buy a small quantity at a time, like bread. Rice is dry and therefore is kept in stock in a sack.

The soya bean, rich in protein, lacks calcium, but this is supplied by vegetables, of which there is seemingly no end in China. Each part of the country produces different varieties of the same vegetable, and there are as many tasty ways of cooking them as there are varieties.

Going on to the fish section, the shopper finds a line of oval wooden tubs, full of water, in which the fish are swimming around. There is no doubt here that the fish are

Shanghai's fruit markets are today well-stocked with varieties from all over the country.

A section of the market specializing in seafood.

fresh! Each tub has a smaller one placed above it, with a small tube from which water runs into the big one, allowing the fish to breathe. Now and then, the stallkeeper replenishes the water in the small tub.

After the customer points to the fish she wants the fishmonger thrusts his arm into the tub up to his elbow, ties a stout straw through its gills, and it is plunked into her basket or tied to the shopper's basket handle.

Other tubs in the fish section are full of squirming eels, or live shrimps, clams, frogs, lobsters, and, in season, crabs by the hundreds. One curious sight is a tub full of bean sprouts; the beans are bedded in shallow water until their sprouts are an inch or more long. They are excellent with pork and soya sauce, and form an important ingredient in "chop suey."

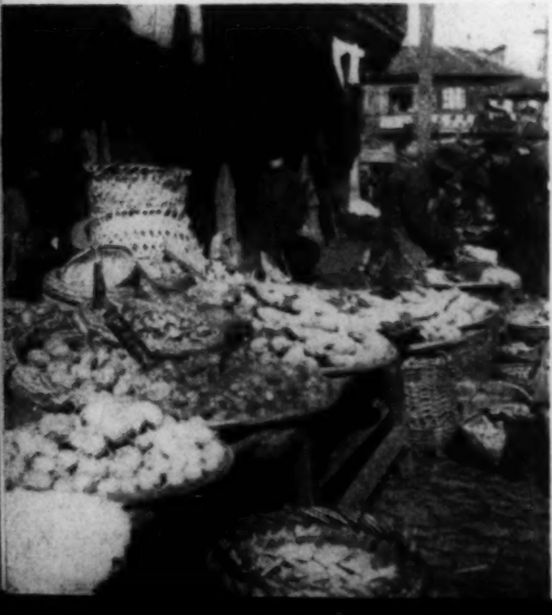
Next, to the chicken crates, which literally surround the seller, their inmates clucking or surveying their prospective consumers with a somnolent eye. The shopper points to a likely-looking fowl, which is brought out, and she prods it all over. It is weighed and paid for, to be cleaned and plucked at home, or the dealer will do it on the spot, gratis. Chicken sells for about 33 American cents a *catty.*

In former times, there was many a squabble over a measly hen. A tricky merchant would bloat it with water, or stuff its craw with grain, and he might have added a little weight by soaking the heavy straw rope used to tie its legs. Such tricks are no longer practiced. With its legs firmly tied to keep it from taking wing, the chicken sits in the basket on top of the red and green peppers and the vegetables, jerking its head and blinking as the shopper departs.

If our housewife wants cooking oil, she must go to a regular shop, where peanut and other vegetable oils are sold. When it comes to appearance, these shops take first prize, with their aluminum or zinc-covered counters. Countless small dippers hang in rows, ready to ladle out the pressings of beans and seeds of many kinds into the bottle the shopper brings with her.

Across the street from the "supermarket" is a Cantonese food shop, selling all manner of dried and fresh things. There are dried squid, or cuttlefish, which look like dried leather but are delicious when cooked with pork, and dozens of other delicacies, for which Chinese food is justly famous.

As a result of restored communications and the development of modern trading companies operating on a national basis, hundreds of "new" products have appeared on the market. Food stores and markets are no exception and hardly a week passes without a new addition being made. One the newest arrivals in Shanghai is the famed Hamikua--a sort of super honey dew melon—from Sinkiang province in China's far Northwest.



There are probably more kinds of vegetables on sale in Shanghai's markets than in any other city in the world.

REPORT FROM SHENYANG

A Factory in New China

JULIAN SCHUMAN

SHENYANG, one of China's major cities, has long been known to the West as Mukden. Capital of the Ching Dynasty which was founded in 1644, the Manchu emperors used this city as the starting-off point in their conquest of China.

On September 18, 1931, Japan used the manufactured "Mukden Incident" on the South Manchuria Railway to begin wholesale annexation of Northeast China (Manchuria) by occupying Shenyang and other big cities. In 1945, the Northeast provinces were returned to China. Many early battles of the Chinese civil war were fought in the Northeast, which was the first large area to be liberated in China.

Since liberation, the Northeast has come into prominence in the West as the result of US allegations that it has been "severed" from China and "incorporated" into the Soviet Union. Cities like Shenyang allegedly are "overrun by Russians," the locale of "slave labor" camps, etc.

PULLING into Shenyang by rail, one is confronted by a skyline of smoking factory chimneys. About 18 hours from Peking, the city reflects the fact that the industrial heart of China lies in the Northeast. One of the striking features of Shenyang is that relatively few people are to be seen on the streets during the daytime, because the great majority are at work in the many factories dotting the city and its outskirts. It is not until five in the afternoon that streets and stores begin to come to life as workers stop off to shop on their way home.

One of the big industries in Shenyang is the making of machine tools, the basic tools which make other tools and upon which all industry rests. The story of the Shenyang No. 1 Machine Tool Factory is typical of the Northeast.

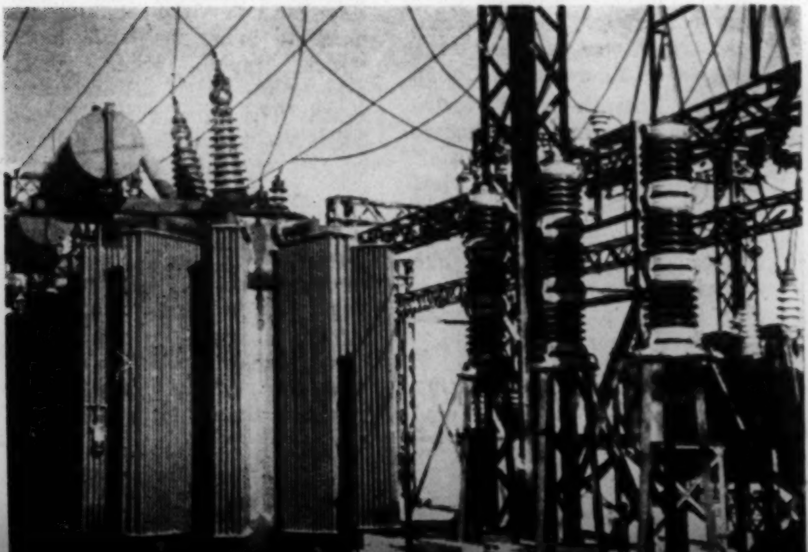
In Japanese hands the factory was an assembly plant turning out only tanks. Today it is mass-producing lathes, shapers, planes and other machine tools. Factory manager Wang, who looks younger than his more than

40 years, revealed that at the end of the Pacific War the Japanese deliberately burned the plans and blueprints for the factory, and at the same time wrecked equipment to such a degree that it was impossible to operate properly.

When the Kuomintang came in after VJ Day and took over, little was done to help the many workers who were unemployed. Instead the officials attempted to fill their own pockets and began selling the plant's machinery piece by piece. Not only did things become more difficult for the workers but just before liberation KMT soldiers used window frames and doors for firewood and partially wrecked the foundry, processing and blacksmith shops.

At the time of the liberation of Shenyang in November 1948, the new government was the inheritor of a virtually wrecked factory, some run-down machines and a great number of unemployed workers. The first step was to give relief to the workers who had remained in the factory and to recall those who had been laid off. Old machines were repaired and used to make new tools, and through the efforts of the workers, along with the help of Soviet technicians, the factory was able to get back on its feet.

The setting up of a democratic management system was an important factor in reviving the plant, Manager Wang emphasized. This was done by establishing a factory management committee with representatives of government,



Giant transformers for power installations are among the new products being made in China.

One of China's "boomingest" post-liberation industries is fountain pen making. The millions of newly-literate workers and peasants keep up a steady demand which the industry is hard put to meet.

management and the workers to decide on policy, production, welfare and safety.

In addition, a workers' committee, elected from among the ranks of the workers, passes on all production and policy matters. Before the workers' committee meets, the agenda is discussed in the shops.

Ideas and recommendations are handed over to the committee which then takes them to the factory management committee. The practical results of this system bear out the statement made by Manager Wang: "More and more the workers began to realize they could run things."

Production in the No. 1 Machine Tool Factory has risen steadily. About 75 percent of the workers have made improvements in methods of work. At the same time, labor heroes—such as Wang Wen-shan, who developed a new method of making oil rings—have come up with many innovations. After a great deal of experimentation, Wang, who was lately an operator specializing in the cutting of oil rings, increased his output by 1,200 times, and at the same time improved the quality of his product by 100 percent.

The sum total of the new set-up in this factory has been a rise in both production and wages. Under the

Japanese and the KMT, the work day, except for high-ranking staff members, was 10 to 12 hours and workers generally were unable to earn enough to meet even family food requirements. Today, they work an eight-hour day and wages by 1950 were 12.5 percent higher than in 1949, in 1951 they were 15 percent above 1950, and last year they were nine percent above 1951.

Along with a steady wage rise, Northeast workers receive subsidies for housing, fuel, light, water and electricity amounting to 20 percent of their wages. All the unheard of amenities in the old days are here now—nurseries for workers' children, clinics, rest homes, libraries and night schools where workers can learn to read and write.

Before liberation more than 60 percent of the workers of Mukden were illiterate. As a result of study in newly-established spare-time and night schools, illiteracy had been cut to 27 percent by last year, and is scheduled to be entirely wiped out this year.

An inspection tour of this Northeast factory revealed no Soviet "overseers"—from the plant manager down all were Chinese, proud of their factory and frank to admit their praise and respect for the material and technical help from the Soviet Union. Equipment may be broken down as follows: 30 percent left over by the Kuomintang, 25 percent made in China since liberation, and 45 percent imported from the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia.

For the first time women are working in enterprises like this machine tool plant. Paid on the same scale as the men, young women such as 21-year-old Wen Yung-yi first attend a factory training school before starting work in the plant. Wen Yung-yi never worked in a factory before but after five months of training and apprenticeship she is able to work independently on a lathe. In view of the great expansion of industry, the trend is to train and hire more women workers.

The overall impression one takes away from such a visit is that China's industrialization is not only assured but will become a reality quicker than most people think. A colonial-type assembly plant —and half wrecked at that— hardly more than four years ago, Shenyang's No. 1 Machine Tool Factory today would be a credit to any industrial nation. And one also comes away with the realization that the embargo on trade with China hurts the West far more than it does China.

CHINA NOTES

A Healthy Nation

FOREIGN visitors have described new China as "the world's most health conscious nation." As the nation's 1953 health campaign gets under way statistics reveal some of the advances made in health work since the founding of the government in October 1949, in sharp contrast to the lack of public health facilities and prevalence of disease and epidemics in China before

In 1950, the First All-China Health Conference laid down three principles: 1) Concentrate on workers, farmers and soldiers; 2) Emphasize prevention; 3) Unite modern and old-style doctors. As was noted at the nation's Second All-China Health Conference in Peking last December, epidemics have been brought under control, US germ warfare has been defeated, and health service for women, children and national minorities has been developed.

Some of the results of the nation's health work in the past three years are:

SICKNESS and mortality rates of workers in mines and factories has been greatly reduced. The number of medical personnel has greatly increased. According to investigations, by 1950 there was one qualified doctor for every 800 workers in 17,312 factories and mines.

MORE than 300,000,000 people were inoculated against smallpox between 1950 and the spring of 1952. There has been no incidence of smallpox in any of the big cities. Throughout the entire country not a single case of cholera has been reported for four years. Plague has been brought under control.

CARE of women and infants has expanded. The number of hospitals has increased by six times and clinics by 31 times. There are now nine times as many public maternity hospitals and six and a half times as many private ones as in the past. More than 125,000 maternity workers have been trained or retrained.

MORTALITY rates formerly were exceedingly high among national minorities. In some cases minority nationalities were actually dying out. For example, few children under 15 could be seen in villages in Inner Mongolia in the past. The death rate has dropped sharply in the various minority areas.

CRECHES in China, by the end of 1951, showed an increase of 113 percent over pre-liberation figures; totaling 14,435. Nurseries and kindergartens were also far above pre-liberation figures. Although last year's figures are not yet available, there was a continuation of the upward trend.

The Second National Health Conference in Peking, setting the tasks for this year, has emphasized that the scale of the health movement in China is to be enlarged. According to Vice-Minister of Health Ho Cheng, the chief tasks in 1953 are to continue the campaign against germ warfare, eliminate the breeding grounds for flies and mosquitoes, destroy all disease-bearing insects, and popularize health education.

Commenting on the health drive in China, the Peking *People's Daily* editorially noted that health work "cannot be done by health organizations alone. There must be close links and coordination between health organs and the people."

Summarizing some of last year's achievements, the paper stated that more than 160,000,000 tons of rubbish were removed. Repaired sewage systems totaled more than 20,000 miles and more than 175,000 miles of ditches and drains were dredged.

Cooperatives Expanding

CHINA's vast cooperative movement has played an important role in the restoration and development of the national economy. By the end of 1952, there were more than 34,000 supply and marketing cooperatives with a total membership of over 140,000,000, a rise of about 60,000,000 over 1951.

Throughout the country, nearly 4,000 agricultural producers' cooperatives and 2,600 handicraft producers' cooperatives have been set up.

The extent of the cooperative network in China can be seen from last year's figures which reveal that cooperative retail trade was equivalent to 10 percent of the total volume of retail trade handled by both state and private firms. From 60 to 70 percent of government purchases of farm products were handled by cooperatives. In addition to supplying food, clothing and other necessities, the cooperatives are also suppliers of farm utensils and fertilizers to the peasants.

According to the Peking *People's Daily*, China's cooperative movement played a useful role in initiating the nation's drive for good harvests in 1952. By buying up industrial crops, the cooperatives ensured supplies of raw materials for state factories. Besides, 250,000 people have formed industrial cooperatives, and during the past year their total production ran into the hundreds of billions of *Yuan*, the paper stated.

Along with producer and consumer cooperatives, credit cooperatives have been assuming an increasingly important role in the countryside. Supervised and backed by the state-owned People's Bank, the credit cooperatives have been absorbing idle money in the villages. They have been able to provide more funds for productive purposes than the banks could possibly manage alone.

Working closely with agricultural cooperatives, mutual-aid teams and the trading, supply and marketing cooperatives, this credit system is helping to speed up China's agricultural development.

Labor Insurance in New China

A REVISION of China's Labor Insurance Law has extended the benefits of labor insurance to the nation's rapidly-growing working force engaged in national construction. Since the begining of this year, these benefits apply to all those employed in capital construction in manufacturing, mining or transport enterprises and in state-owned construction companies.

The old regulations, in effect since March 1, 1951, dealt only with railways, shipping, post and tele-communication enterprises, and with factories and mines employing more than 100 workers. In enterprises not covered in the regulations, workers are covered by collective agreements.

Under the revised law, benefits to workers have been raised considerably. Total expenditure to be borne by management in labor insurance funds, for medical expenses and wages for workers on sick leave or on maternity leave, for example, go up by 25 percent.

In both state and private enterprises covered by the regulations, management has to pay into the labor insurance fund a monthly sum equivalent to three percent of the total payroll. No expenses of any sort for services covered by the regulations are borne by the workers.

Medical expenses for both occupational and non-occupational injuries or disease, for both manual and non-manual workers, are paid by management. Workers suffering from occupational injuries receive full pay during treatment and those suffering from non-occupational injuries or illness receive between 60 and 100 percent of their wages for six successive months (under the original law they received between 50 and 100 percent for three successive months only). After six months, they receive sickness benefits varying from 40-60 percent of their wages from the labor insurance fund (previously they received 30-50 percent for from three to six months and 20-30 percent after six months).

The revised regulations provide that all injured or sick workers are entitled to resume their jobs after recovery.

As in the case of workers suffering from occupational and non-occupational diseases and injuries, similar readjustments have been made for disability and retirement. At the same time, for underground workers, workers in chemical, munitions or similar occupations, or workers who work regularly in temperatures below 32 degrees Fahrenheit or above 100 degrees Fahrenheit, the retirement age has been lowered by five years with less strict qualifications for retirement pensions.

All women workers, manual or non-manual, are entitled to eight weeks' paid leave in normal cases of childbirth. The revised regulations provide for two additional weeks in difficult cases or birth of twins. Medical expenses are borne by management.

In new China, labor insurance funds are directly controlled by the trade union. Normally, 30 percent of the funds go into the central fund, which is directly at the disposal of the All-China Federation of Labor for the provision of such workers' amenities as rest homes, sanatoria, homes for the aged, orphanages and so forth. The remaining 70 percent is at the disposal of the trade union committees in each individual factory or enterprise, to cover pensions and other benefits.

Northwest Cotton Mill

THE Northwest's largest cotton mill has been in operation since last May. In the past, most woven cotton came from big cities in the east such as Shanghai and Tientsin. For example, in central Shensi province, with a cotton-producing area of about 500 miles east and west, only 25 percent of the cotton crop could be taken up by the local textile industry because of the shortage of mills. The rest went to the east to be manufactured and then returned to shops in the Northwest.

The present factory is able to supply the needs of 7,000,000 people, and its products are in great demand. All machinery in the new factory is made in China—every spindle, every screw.

Actual construction took only six months, while the floors were being put in, machines were assembled and tried out.

The addition of the new factory has increased the number of spindles in the Northwest textile industry by 100 percent, and the number of weaving machines by 400 percent.

The building and all workshops are equipped with the latest safety devices and special attention is paid to workers' health. Cooling and heating systems are installed and the new factory includes other amenities such as a large dining hall, dormitories, hospital, creche and social clubs.

Chairman Mao's Three Points

ADDRESSING the 4th session of the First National Committee of the People's Political Consultative Conference in Peking on February 7, Chairman Mao Tse-tung called for a strengthening of the Chinese people's struggle against the US in Korea, and at the same time stated that China was agreeable to an immediate armistice with all outstanding issues to be settled later by negotiation.

In his talk, Chairman Mao made three points:

1) Because of the US insistence on retaining war prisoners and its breaking off of the ceasefire talks, and the US attempts to expand the war, the struggle of the Chinese people must be continued and solidified. China wants peace, but if the US does not give up its unreasonable demands in Korea and its plan to enlarge the war, then the Chinese people are determined to stand with the people of Korea to attain a complete victory.

2) China is launching a gigantic national construction program. The job confronting the nation is difficult; therefore, it is necessary to learn from the experiences and the advanced scientific techniques of the Soviet Union.

3) Bureaucracy within leading organizations and among cadres at different levels must be opposed. In order to carry out large-scale national construction it is essential for cadres at all levels to have close unity with the masses of the people and thereby eliminate the last vestiges of bureaucracy.

MANY POLITICAL PARTIES MAKE UP

CHINA'S UNITED FRONT

JOSEPH STAROBIN

THE Chinese Communist Party is the leading party in new China but it is not the only one; in fact one of the most important achievements of the present government is its successful policy of uniting different political parties, forces and personalities in the common task of reconstruction and development. Terms such as "Red China" or "Communist China" do not accurately describe either the character or the real way in which this country is governed and led. This is a united front government of very wide proportions.

For example, the first meeting of the People's Political Consultative Conference, (which organized China's new government) in 1949, was a coming together of representatives of a wide variety of organizations, ranging from the All-China Federation of Labor to the All-China Federation of Literary and Art Circles. It included delegates from different army units and every geographical area of China. In addition to the Chinese Communist Party, there were no less than 10 other political parties and associations, representing a variety of liberal, democratic and left-wing Kuomintang forces who had in one way or another opposed the Chiang Kai-shek dictatorship. Church groups, national minorities and women's organizations also were represented.

Actually, in the initial body of 662 delegates who formed a sort of constitutional convention, 16 represented the Communist Party as such. Two of the other parties—the Revolutionary Committee of the Kuomintang and the Democratic League — were represented by the same number. Of course among the delegates from mass organizations there were many members of the Communist Party. But the idea of "one party dictatorship" or "exclusive control of the Central People's Governhands" is erroneous.

Another example is to be found in the 185 ministers in the Central People's Government in Peking. As of October

1, 1952, there were 66 Communists, and leading members of other parties or non-party persons. In every government body, in all provincial consultative conferences and in all fields of public life the Communist conception of leadership consists of associating with themselves the leading figures of the entire united front against the old regime and society. This is symbolized by the two chief portraits that are carried in the National Day celebrations: those of Dr. Sun Yat-sen and Chairman Mao Tse-tung.

ONE of the comrades-in-arms of Dr. Sun is Li Chi-sen, today one of the five vice-chairmen in the national government. He received me one sunny autumn morning in his modest Peking home; the lovely courtyard was filled with the fragrance of flowers. Li is a smiling, grandfatherly man, with eyes that twinkle behind light-rimmed glasses. Over tea and cakes, I asked him first about himself and the Revolutionary Committee of the Kuomintang.

He related first how after the Northern Expedition, which saw the foundations of the old China shaken by the victories of the united forces of the Kuomintang and the Communists, and the death of Dr. Sun, the leadership of the KMT had been usurped by Chiang Kai-shek. And after Chiang's blood-bath of Communists and progressives in 1927, Li Chi-sen began to realize how the great aims of Dr. Sun were being betrayed.

Li spoke briefly of the 1932-33 days when the Japanese invaders pushed on beyond Shanghai, despite the 19th Route Army's resistance. By November 1933, he had organized a people's government in Fukien province on the south-east coast in cooperation with the Communists. In 1944, as the rotting Chiang dictatorship gave way before the Japanese offensives, he again undertook guerilla resistance and by January 1, 1948, the time was ripe for bringing together diverse democratic and left-wing KMT elements to form the Revolutionary Committee of the party. Its aims were to realize coalition with the Communists and a democratic government that would achieve Dr. Sun's principles. "Instead, in so

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The united front among China's many political parties is an outstanding feature of the present Chinese government. With the holding of nation-wide elections set for this year, Joseph Starobin's article is particularly timely. Mr. Starobin is an American newspaperman who has spent the past few months traveling in China.

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many respects the Communist Party has not only realized but surpassed Dr. Sun's idea," said Li Chi-sen.

"The most profound experience of these 20 years," he continued, "was my coming to understand this pivotal question—that in the semi-colonial countries, it is the working class and its party which must lead. Without the support of the people who labor the revolution would have wavered."

Listening to this man who had started political life so far from the Communists, had played such a big role in the Kuomintang and had come by so many detours to cooperation with the Communists, while remaining distinct from them, one could begin to grasp the broad outlines of the peoples' regime here. This united front character of China's present government and method of leadership is surely one of its distinctive features and has an international importance.

And what was the function of his organization?

It was, he replied, a center for rallying and educating all these who came from the middle classes and considered themselves true adherents of the original Kuomintang ideals. The Communist Party based itself on the working class in the first place; the Revolutionary Committee of the Kuomintang Party was uniquely a middle class party. It had grown considerably since 1948, in fact doubling its membership.

Many of the Committee's leading members take a prominent part in the present government—not only the central government in Peking but on provincial and municipal levels. One of its organizers is Tang Ping-shan, of the Central People's Government Council; another is Ho Hsiang-ning, woman Minister for Overseas Chinese Affairs.

I asked Li Chi-sen whether he, as a figure known to Americans, had any special message for my own country. The vice-chairman seemed to welcome the question. He recalled the fact that Dr. Sun Yat-sen once lived in San Francisco and Honolulu. "Tell the people of the United States that Dr. Sun's dream of independence, freedom and equality for China is being realized.

"The measures we are taking," he continued "clearly show that we want peace, that we are willing to co-exist with the United States and work for peace. We do not wish to invade the United States and will not let others invade us."

Li Chi-sen spoke of China's suffering under foreign aggression, and said: I hope that upon your return to your own country, you will explain to everyone that we are against the present tense situation. It is time to end it."

BOOKS OF INTEREST

The US and the Far East, 1945-1951. Harold M. Vinacke. 135 pp. Stanford University Press, Stanford, California. Oxford University Press, London. Reviewed by D.F.

WHAT would Americans think if China insisted on intruding herself into a commercial treaty between the U.S. and Canada?

Note an official statement by Secretary of State Byrnes in 1946: " . . . It is therefore disturbing to this Government to receive reports that discussions are under way which might result in the establishment of exclusive Sino-Soviet control over industrial enterprises in Manchuria. Under present conditions, when . . . opportunity in seeking participation in the economic development of Manchuria is denied Americans . . . [such a step] . . . would constitute clear discrimination against Americans who might wish an opportunity to participate in the development of Manchurian industry and might place American commercial interests at a distinct disadvantage in establishing future trade relations with Manchuria."

That is from the China White Paper of 1949, quoted at length in the book under discussion. From the date of the treaty it will be seen that it was between the Soviets and the Kuomintang, not with the Chinese Communists. But that is beside the point. The important aspect of the affair is that America was exceedingly disgruntled, and provoked to protest because China dared to sign a treaty regarding her Northeastern provinces with her next-door neighbor.

At the top of page one in "The U.S. and the Far East, 1945-1951" the author tells what this book is about: "It had come to be recognized that the United States could not continue to follow its traditional policy of non-participation in European politics in time of so-called peace," and, of course, in politics elsewhere all round the world, as later revealed. Therefore, the sentence quoted might be paraphrased to read: "The U.S. could not keep its nose out of other folks' affairs." The entire book is devoted to two themes. 1) The U.S. must meddle in other countries, and 2) the Soviet Union must retire behind the Urals and into the snowy Arctic wastes, and not even think about other countries.

All the facts presented in this little volume are of common knowledge to anyone who has followed, even superficially, U.S. Far Eastern policy during the years mentioned. There is nothing new, except some amazing twists the author gives to history. These odd slants would make this book, with its professorial diction toned down a bit, an excellent history textbook for American elementary schools, for use in the next grade after the one in which the kiddies have been told about George Washington and his little hatchet.

Does this book mention the fact that Truman ordered military action in Korea **before** consulting the United

Nations? That would be too shocking. Harken to Professor Vinacke: "But the action taken was on the basis of support of the UN rather than ostensibly in implementation of national policy. This was made possible by the earlier transfer of the problem to the general assembly for solution." Now to be sure, the Korean problem in general had been under discussion in the General Assembly; here the reader is given to suppose the author refers to the outbreak of hostilities. In the following paragraph, he elaborates on this theme, that the US intervened militarily only after protests by the UN to the "northern front." He says: "When it was reported on June 25, 1950, that the territories of the Republic had been invaded by the forces of the northern regime, the U.S. requested an immediate meeting of the Security Council. The Security Council, by a 7 to 1 majority, issued a 'cease-fire' order and ordered the retirement of the northern forces back beyond the 38th parallel. Neither order was obeyed. The U.S. immediately began sending munitions to Korea and soon made clear its intention of giving air and naval support to the Korean government." In the next paragraph, for the third time he belabors this point: " . . . it was the policy of the U.S. to relate its own action to U.N. policy, while insisting on the necessity of action and itself taking action."

Democratic
GERMAN REPORT
a fortnightly published by John Peet, chronicles developments in the German Democratic Republic.

Subscriptions at
Guodzi Shudian, 38
Soochow Hutung,
Peking

Another twist ,the author gives to history is even more startling. We learn that "After May 1940, only the United States and the Soviet Union had the power to act. The latter, however, concentrated its attention on expansion into eastern Europe." He leaves it at that, without going into horrible detail about how, without warning, the Soviet Luftwaffe, Wehrmacht, and Panzertruppen overran Germany and laid waste that peace-loving country!

According to Professor Vinacke, the Washington Conference put Japan on her honor to observe the Nine Power Treaty. Honor, forsooth! The honor of Japanese militarists! The author continues: "This indicated an American intention to rely on legal and moral restraints rather than on physical power to secure respect for international engagements."

Now this is just the sort of tripe to be taught to American youngsters who must be shielded from the facts of life. The truth is that the U.S.

had a substantial understanding with Japan, and was deliberately backing Japan in her aggression in China's Northeast, hoping to direct Japanese expansion away from the U.S. and European preserves in Asia and toward the Soviet Union. At the time, the American imperialists certainly knew there was danger of Japan's getting out of hand, but they continued their policy anyway.

The professor tells quite accurately, and with an undertone of apology, the dreary tale of American policy vis-a-vis Japan from the high ideals of the surrender days to the abandonment of the program of reform, and the feverish build-up of Japan as an American war-base. He is, however, inclined to soft-pedal Japan's own foreign policy, especially regarding China's Northeastern provinces, and Korea. "Korea first became involved in difficulty and found her status threatened by Japan and Russia. Ultimately (in 1910) she became a part of the Japanese Empire by formal annexation. This was accomplished as a result of two wars, in relation to both of which the United States officially stood apart as a declared neutral."

There. Not a word about the agony of that little country, invaded and subjugated, at the cost of frightful suffering, by the Japanese war party. From his statement, one would gather that the whole thing was Korea's fault for being in the way, and putting Japan to all the trouble of conquering her.

This book contains one, and only one, mention of Mao Tse-tung. ". . . its head, Mao Tse-tung, referred to the problem of disposing of the opposition of some three to four hundred thousand 'bandits' who might be guerrillas." And that is all. A two-and-one-half line brush-off, and that disposes of the man who brought about the greatest renascence in China's history, and is now the honored and beloved leader of a nation of half a billion people.

About India: ". . . its fears, based on its location, of the Soviet Union." In the first place, there are three countries, China and Afghanistan, and Iran between India and the Soviet Union. And whence, one wonders, did the professor's information come? Did he go to India and question the 300,000,000 inhabitants as to their fears? Or even three inhabitants?

In what seems to be an apology for some aspects of American policy, the author says, "At the end of World War II, American Far Eastern policy was based upon the view that post-war China would become the stable leading power in the Far East and that China would be unified and stabilized under a government friendly to the United States in case of conflict in the area . . . By 1948, however, it seemed to be clear that, at the best China would remain a problem in Far Eastern politics . . . "

For "friendly" read "subservient," and one would be nearer to the truth. As for China now being a problem: she is that only to the busybodies in the Pentagon. China is no problem to herself. China's internal affairs are geared to clear track, and full steam ahead.

Let us not be too hard on Professor Vinacke. He is, after all, living on the seamy side of that Iron Curtain, and must watch his step.

Report to Readers

ONE of the more lurid clippings received this past month was a syndicated column by one Victor Riesel who purported to give his readers the real "inside" about American prisoners of war in North Korea.

While basically a re-hash of the old and already discredited line that American POW's are being mistreated unless they agree to embrace Communism, Riesel has dolled it up to a point where it almost bears comparison with the best of Perry Mason. Replete with such super-charged words as "ghastly", "injured", "maimed", "executed", "slaughtered", "mangled", "beheaded", "buried-alive", "killed", "tortured", "dead" and "died", it also has a full list of super-thriller characters, the drawing of which would tax the most inventive of modern who-dunnit authors.

There are the "political police" and the "agitation-propaganda chiefs" who "brain-wash" the POW's (in between the "beheadings," we presume), but one of the most remarkable characters of all in this tale of the midnight terror is the Soviet doctor bearing the fine imaginative name of "Pulooharoff" who, Riesel tells us, killed two G.I.'s by injecting germs into them.

Other leading characters are the "Third and Seven group doctors" who performed the remarkable feat of draining "1,700,000 pints" of blood from the POW's. No matter how you look at it this is something of a medical miracle. This becomes readily apparent if you add up the blood supply of the 11,559 UN POW's held by the North Koreans and Chinese. At an average of 12 pints per man, the average amount for a human being, the grand total would be 138,708 pints—a figure rather short of the 1,700,000 pints Riesel states to have been obtained. And this figure presupposes that the POW's were drained of all their blood, in which case they wouldn't make very good Communists (or anything else).

Almost equally as absorbing is Riesel's description of how the "brain-washing" of the POW's (whether before or after their blood-draining, he doesn't say) is carried out. "The first mental assault on our captured troops," he says, "is made by members of the American Communist Party now in China. They are aided by 'Americans' such as John Powell, now a Shanghai editor (of the *China Monthly Review*)."

Here, Riesel violates the rule so carefully observed throughout the rest of the column. He has mentioned a person who really exists, the *Review's* editor. However, it is the only mis-step in the entire column which otherwise—including the editor's supposed preoccupation with "mental assaults" on the American POW's and the questioning quotation marks surrounding his designation as an American—is strictly for the birds.

Winding up this little thriller, Riesel tells us where he got his plot: "There are little side streets in Portuguese Macao . . . which are filled with the headquarters of anti-Communist Chinese operations."

And, unless Macao has changed radically since our last visit, these "little side streets" are filled with a number of other things—brothels, black market currency dealers, gambling dens and, undoubtedly closest to Riesel's heart, dollar-a-pipe opium dens, where for a buck or two one can work up about any kind of pipe dream one desires.

WHILE on the subject of clippings, we'd like to make a few constructive suggestions to an anonymous "reader" in Hongkong. A couple of months or so back we began receiving little envelopes stuffed with clippings from this "admirer." At first he contented himself with merely dispatching a carefully selected bunch of clippings every few days. More recently, he has, demonstrating a shrewdness almost equal to that of Riesel, begun to write subtle little notes on the margins.

A typical one, scrawled across a clipping about the Slansky trial in Czechoslovakia, read: "Go home you fool!"

Since our correspondent declines to put his real name and return address on the envelopes, we must of necessity express our thanks in print.

We always welcome a new member to that group of interested readers who take it upon themselves to supply us with clippings. We don't even mind numbering a hostile one among the group. In fact, our newest correspondent appears to be so well-placed—having access to the airmail editions of the *New York Times*, the London *Economist* and other such publications—that we suspect we are now coming in for some attention from those who spend the US government's $100,000,000 Project X slush fund.

Along with our thanks, however, we would like to suggest that he broaden his coverage. The Prague trials—or at least the US news agency version of them—along with "informed" guesses as to which prominent Soviet or Eastern European official is to be arrested next, are getting rather dull. Perhaps a little more attention to Western press coverage of China—we save all we get, having several folders full of clips about as choice as Riesel's column—would be better.

THE REPORT is short this month because this is the section we always write at the last moment—and the last moment caught us with two editors on sick call, and the other editor with his hands full trying to catch typos at the printers.

Since we have eight staff members altogether who handle everything from sweeping the floor to mailing the issues to writing edits, any minor illness on the part of anyone of us causes something of a crisis at the office. With two editors down, this is rather a major catastrophe which might set back the next issue somewhat.

P.S. Our apologies to those readers and contributors who are waiting for answers to their letters. Always rushed to keep up with our correspondence, we've had to let it slide even more than usual the past month.

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